

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 2020

The Welcome

The Prelude

*Three Festive Carols*

The Call to Worship

The Christmas Carol

*Once in Royal David's City*

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall: with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew; he was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew: and he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him through his own redeeming love; for that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above, and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Words by Cecil Frances Alexander, Music by Henry Gauntlett

The Invocation

The Christmas Carol

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth! And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wond'rous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts the blessing of His heav'n. No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray! Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell! O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel. Words by Phillip Brooks, Music by Lewis Redner

The Christmas Eve Offering

*Our offering this evening will go into our Diaconate Benevolence Fund. You may put your gift in an offering plate in the foyer, or give online at [www.pearorchard.org](http://www.pearorchard.org).*

The Offering

*O Holy Night*

Margaret Sprow, vocalist

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of our dear Savior's birth; long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born, O night divine! O night, O night divine.

Let by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand; so led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the wise men from the Orient land. The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger, in all our trials born to be our friend; He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger; behold your King! Before him lowly bend! Behold your King! Your King! Before him bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another; his law is love and his gospel is peace. Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his holy name. Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born, O night divine! O night, O night divine!

Words and Music by Adolphe Adam

The Christmas Gospel

**Galatians 4:1-7**

The Christmas Message

Rev. Caleb Cangelosi

*Born to Set His People Free*

The Hymn of Response

*Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Based on Psalm 98, Words by Isaac Watts, Music by George Frederick Handel  
arranged by Lowell Mason

The Benediction

The Postlude

*Noel!*

arr. I. Ackenhusen