

University Baptist Church
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24, 2016
5:00 pm

THE GATHERING

Leader: On this silent, holy night, let us follow the example of the shepherds of the Christmas Story.

People: **Let us go and see this thing that has come to pass, that the angels have told us.**

Leader: Let us worship Christ, the Newborn King!

THE PRELUDE – O Come, All Ye Faithful Callahan

** THE CAROL 89 – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*ADESTE FIDELIS

** THE INVOCATION

THE TRIO - *Peace, Peace*Powell

THE CELEBRATION OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: These past four Sundays of Advent, we have lit in turn the candles of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love. Each candle joined with the others to light the way toward this night. Each of these Divine gifts to our souls are afire to acclaim the source of all light, who is Jesus Christ.

People: Tonight, we light the Christ Candle, celebrating Jesus' birth, the miracle of God come among us.

Leader: Born as we are born, growing as do we, uniquely expressing the fullness of God in himself, the perfect revelation of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love which is God, in Jesus Christ may we find that same divine life come to be born in us.

People: Lord, may your gifts of Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love set our souls ablaze this night. May we be reborn in you, your true light shining as beacons within our hearts to guide us in your path and to bear witness to those who yet walk in darkness.

THE CAROL – *Light the Light, the Fire of Life* (see insert)..... ST LOUIS
(stanza 5)

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE SOLO – *Some Children See Him*Burt

THE FIRST NEW TESTAMENT LESSON..... Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.


Light the Light, the Fire of Life

Unison



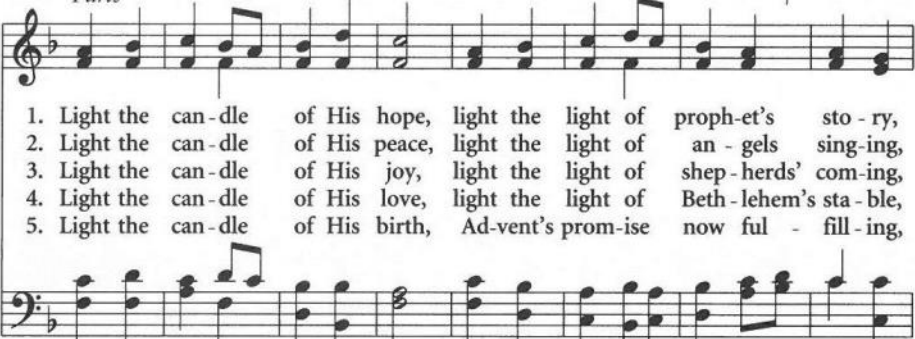
Light the light, the fire of life, let the can-dle re - veal His glo - ry.

Fine




Je - sus Christ has come to earth and for us shall come a - gain.

Parts



1. Light the can-dle of His hope, light the light of proph-et's sto - ry,
2. Light the can-dle of His peace, light the light of an - gels sing-ing,
3. Light the can-dle of His joy, light the light of shep - herds' com-ing,
4. Light the can-dle of His love, light the light of Beth - lehem's sta - ble,
5. Light the can-dle of His birth, Ad-vent's prom-ise now ful - fill-ing,

D.C.



light the can - dle of His hope, light the light we all must hold.
 light the can - dle of His peace, light the light that shone that night.
 light the can - dle of His joy, light the light that shows the way.
 light the can - dle of His love, light the light by which we see.
 light the can - dle of His birth, light the light of Christ-mas Eve.

WORDS: David Montoya, 1997
 MUSIC: French carol, 18th cent.; arr. David W. Music, 1997

IL EST NÉ
 7.8.7.7 with refrain

Leader: This is the word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

THE SOLO – *Gesu Bambino*..... Yon

THE SECOND NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 2:8-14

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

** THE HYMN 85 – *The First Nowell* THE FIRST NOWELL
(stanzas 1, 4)

THE OFFERTORY – *O Little Town of Behtlehem* Hayes

*All undesignated offerings will provide assistance
to the Alliance for Interfaith Ministries*

AIM (Alliance for Interfaith Ministries) provides emergency assistance to families who are threatened with homelessness, loss of power or fuel, or other temporary financial emergencies. It is supported by local churches, individuals, foundations, and service clubs.

THE THIRD NEW TESTAMENT LESSON..... Luke 2:15-19

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

THE SERMON

“Holy Nonsense”

Rev. Gary Dalton

THE SOLO – *This Christmastide (Jessye’s Carol)* Fraser

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

The Ministers will light their candles from the Christ Candle, and will share their light with the deacons, who will in turn share their light with the congregants on the end of each pew. Please do not tilt your candle once it has been lit – as you share the light, the person receiving the light tilts their candle in to the one sharing it to light their candle. At the appropriate time, please stand and sing the carol.

** THE CAROL 91 – *Silent Night, Holy Night* STILLE NACHT
(stanzas 1, 4)

** THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

** THE BENEDICTION

** THOSE WHO ARE PHYSICALLY ABLE ARE INVITED TO STAND AT THESE POINTS
IN THE SERVICE.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Gary Dalton, Senior Minister in the Interim

Rev. Will Brown, Associate Minister for Community

The Gaines Family - Celebration of the Advent Wreath

Barbara Moore, Organist

Diane Mundell, Carolyn Lowry, and Laura Martindale, Soloists

Caroline Wagoner, Mattie Morris, and Will Wagoner, Trio

Emily and Jacob Morris, Acolytes

Ed Smith, Invocation

Lynn Martin, Children’s Sermon

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*Christmas Morning, Come As You Are!
An Informal Service of Carols & Readings
Sunday, December 25, 11:00 am*

Sunday Bible Study classes will not meet

Sunday, December 25, 2016

Sunday, January 1, 2017

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