



# UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH



Nativity – Gail Bartel (018)

*God has called University Baptist Church to minister to the University Community and to the residents of the Greater Charlottesville-Albemarle Community, serving as agents of Christ's love and justice for those in need and offering a vital family of faith.*

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# WORSHIP OF GOD IN CHRIST

December 24, 2018

5:00 p.m.

## *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

Prelude ..... Barbara Moore

*Angels We Have Heard on High* - arr. Elliott

Lighting the Candles ..... Emily and Jacob Morris

*We light these candles to welcome the Spirit, for they represent how Jesus is the Light of the world which guides us through life.*

Opening the Bible ..... Emily and Jacob Morris

*We open the Bible to remind us that God speaks to the people through the Holy Word.*

Choral Call to Worship ..... Sanctuary Choir

*Fum, Fum, Fum* - arr. Parker

"Fum, Fum, Fum" is a traditional Catalan Christmas carol. It is thought to have originated in the 16th or 17th century. The word "fum" means smoke in Catalan, and it may simply refer to the smoke rising from a chimney as seen from afar, or, as indicated in the *New Oxford Book of Carols*, "may imitate the sound of a drum or perhaps the strumming of a guitar."

Call to Worship ..... Shirley Clark

Leader: On this holiest of nights,

**People: We come, joining the shepherds who are stunned by wonder.**

Leader: On this most silent night,

**People: We come, our hopes and dreams joining those of Mary and Joseph.**

Leader: On this night of carols and candlelight,

**People: We come, our glad songs joining with the choirs of angels over us.**

\*\* Hymn 87 – *Joy to the World! The Lord is Come*

\*\* Invocation ..... Rev. Will Brown

Greeting ..... Rev. Brown

## *Celebrating the Advent Wreath*

The Moore Family

**Leader:** On Christmas Eve, we complete the Celebration of Advent as we light the Christ Candle.

**People:** A child has been born—for us! The gift of a son—for us! His names will be: Amazing Counselor, Strong God, Eternal Father, Prince of Wholeness. His ruling authority will grow, and there'll be no limits to the wholeness he brings. (Isaiah 9:6-5, *The Message*)

**Leader:** Let us pray: Heavenly Father, thank you for this night and for all it represents. Thank you for the hope you bestow, the peace you bring, the love you pour out, and the joy you give. We praise you most of all for Jesus, your Word made flesh. May he light our way as the holy star lit the way for the wise men. Amen.

Solo - *I Wonder as I Wander*- Niles ..... Diane Mundell

Gospel Lesson - Luke 2:1-20..... Karen Minor  
(pages 832-833 in the pew Bibles)

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord!

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Hymn 94 - *Angels From the Realms of Glory*(stanzas 1, 2)

Children's Sermon..... Erin Brown

Hymn 94 - *Angels From the Realms of Glory*(stanza 4)

Christmas Homily..... Dr. Matthew Tennant

Meditation Hymn 103 - *Away In a Manger*

### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

During the solo, 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 persons seated on the end of each pew. As you receive the light, tilt your candle in to the one sharing it. Please do not tilt your candle once it has been lit. After the solo, we will all stand and hold our candles high as we receive the Christmas Benediction.

Solo— *O Holy Night*—Adam.....Laura Martindale

\*\* Christmas Benediction.....Dr. Tennant

After the Benediction, we will recess to the front steps where we will sing the closing carol, *Silent Night, Holy Night* (the words are printed below, if you need them). Parents, if you are concerned about your children walking with a lighted candle, please wait to light their candles until they are standing on the front steps.

\*\* Recessional .....Barbara Moore

*God Rest You Merry Gentlemen - Gomanne*

\*\* Hymn- *Silent Night, Holy Night*

Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and Child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

\*\* Christmas Blessing .....Dr. Tennant

After the Blessing, please carefully extinguish the candles (parents, please assist your younger children with this), and then remove the candle from its holder (cup), placing them in the Narthex in the boxes there.

*Merry Christmas to all!  
May God bless you,  
and send you a happy new year!*