



# Thursday, December 24, 2020

## Christmas Eve

### Prelude

*Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol*

Velda Graham Bell, organ

Gerald Near

### Carol

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

UM Hymnal #234, v. 1, 3, 6

led by Michael Goodlet and Velda Graham Bell

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye,  
to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him,  
born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens  
of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all

glory in the highest;  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be  
all glory given.  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing.  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

### Greeting

Pastors Jeanine Alexander and Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

### Call to Worship

Pastors Jeanine Alexander and Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

One: We gather this starlit night to share good news and tidings of great joy.

**All: Today in the town of Bethlehem, a Savior has been born, Christ the Lord!**

One: With the angels, let us sing our praises.

**All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace to all!**

### Carol

*Joy to the World*

UM Hymnal #246, v. 1, 2, 4

led by Riley Hinnenkamp and Velda Graham Bell

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world with truth and strength,  
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.

## Lighting the Christ Candle

Pastor Jeanine; Pastor Cynthia;  
Jan, Ron, Jenna, Steve, Elaina and Saige Mattson

Joy to the world! The Lord is come! We re-light the candle of love, the candle of hope, the candle of joy and the candle of peace. Tonight will be the culmination of it all as we light the Christ candle representing the birth of Jesus. We thank God for the hope Jesus Christ gives us, the peace he bestows, the joy he pours into our hearts, and the love that redeems us and shows us the way. We light the Christ candle to remind us of God's gift of Jesus. Through Jesus, God's light has come into the world.

## Special Music

*Ríu, Ríu, Chíu* 16th century Spanish carol; arr. Cathy Moglebust  
Strikepoint; Bill Alexander, director; Shelley Gruskin, recorder;  
Elise Hintzman, Michael Hintzman, Tommy Kishida, percussion

## Unison Prayer

Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

**O God, you have brought us again to this very special night when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Tonight, let the words of Scripture tell us the old, yet ever new, story. Let the carols take us back to see again the wonder and mystery of your coming. Enable our human minds to comprehend some of the glory of the divine event. In the name of our Savior, we pray. Amen!**

## Children's Christmas Message

Jojo Coffin-Langdon

## Special Music

*A Christmas Hallelujah* Leonard Cohen, music; Cloverton, lyrics  
Tapestry

## Scripture Reading

Alexander / Carolan family

### Luke 2:1-19

- Bill: And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria.
- Millie: So all went to be registered, everyone to their own city.
- Stacy: Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the City of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.
- Liam: And she brought forth her firstborn Son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.
- Lauren: Now there were in the same country, shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them:
- Bill: "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."
- Stacy: And suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:
- Lauren: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill toward all people!"
- Liam: So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another:
- Stacy: "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

Bill: And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.  
 Lauren: When they had seen the babe, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.  
 Liam: And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

## Christmas Prayer

Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

## Carol *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

UM Hymnal #240, v. 1, 3  
 led by Michael Goodlet and Velda Graham Bell

1. *Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King;  
 peace on earth and mercy mild,  
 God and sinners reconciled!"  
 Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
 join the triumph of the skies;  
 with th'angelic host proclaim,  
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
 Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King!"*

3. *Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
 Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
 Light and life to all he brings,  
 risen with healing in his wings.  
 Mild he lays his glory by,  
 born that we no more may die,  
 born to raise us from the earth,  
 born to give us second birth.  
 Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn King!"*

## Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

## Offertory *Ave Maria*

Bach/Gounod

Johanna Gruskin, flute; LeAnn House, piano

## Meditation *I'll Be Home for Christmas*

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

## Carols

led by Emma Rustan

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
 UM Hymnal #230, v. 1

1. *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.*

*In the Bleak Midwinter*  
 UM Hymnal #221, v. 1

1. *In the bleak midwinter,  
 frosty wind made moan,  
 earth stood hard as iron,  
 water like a stone;  
 snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
 snow on snow,  
 in the bleak midwinter,  
 long ago.*

*He Is Born*  
 UM Hymnal #228, v. 1

*Refrain: He is born, the holy Child,  
 play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!  
 He is born, the holy Child,  
 sing we all of the Savior mild.*

1. *Thru long ages of the past,  
 prophets have foretold his coming;  
 thru long ages of the past,  
 now the time has come at last!*

*Refrain: He is born, the holy Child,  
 play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!  
 He is born, the holy Child,  
 sing we all of the Savior mild.*

## Benediction

Pastors Jeanine Alexander and Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

## Unison Prayer

Pastors Jeanine Alexander and Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

**Strong and tender God, one candle can pierce a thousand darknesses, one flickering light can kindle new vision, one voice on fire can set our hearts ablaze. Passionate and gentle God, you are the source of light, and we are your many candles, each uniquely burning for you. Touch us. Light us. Warm us. Purify us. May a flame rise in us and burn bright in us this holy and fiery night. In the name of Jesus the newborn king, we pray. Amen.**

## Carol of Blessing

*Holy Night, Silent Night*  
Musicians from First and Hillside UMCs

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram



*Please join us for worship on YouTube every Sunday, premiering at 10 am. Find us at [youtube.com/channel/UCA47ISATrUsyV7xJ8b4cWwzw](https://youtube.com/channel/UCA47ISATrUsyV7xJ8b4cWwzw) or search First United Methodist Church, Duluth.*

*Our December 27 worship service will be a simple service. Pastors Jeanine and Cynthia will greet you, and the rest of the service has been provided by the Minnesota Annual Conference.*

*Thank you to our music directors for contributing so much to tonight's service:*

Emma Rustan, Pianist, Hillside UMC  
Susan Smart, Choir Director, Hillside UMC  
Michael Goodlet, Sanctuary Choir Director, First UMC  
Bill Alexander, Director of Handbells, First UMC  
Cynthia Coffin-Langdon, Tapestry Director, First UMC  
Velda Graham Bell, Director of Music Ministries/Organist, First UMC

*Thank you to Bill Alexander and Alex Flinner for recording, compiling, editing and distributing the videos to create our online worship service.*

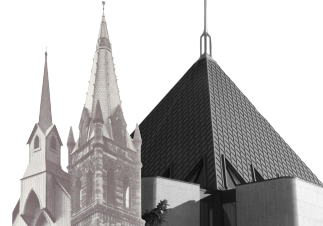
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