

# ***Worship for Christmas Eve***

December 24, 2011

Six O'clock in the Evening

The Nativity of Our Lord

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Greeting

Gene Derryberry

*The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.*

Organ Voluntary

*"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*

setting by James R. Kimball

Call to Worship

Paul Sims, Sara Spahr Stubbs

Carol — *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

ADESTE FIDELES

*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.  
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.*

– John F. Wade, 18<sup>th</sup> century

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Paul Sims

## **Meeting the Christ Child**

Lighting the Candle of the Prophets

Isaiah's Story

Carol — *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

HYFRYDOL

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.*

– Charles Wesley, 18<sup>th</sup> century

## Lighting the Candle of the Holy Family

### Joseph and Mary's Story

Carol — *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

ST. LOUIS

***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 wondering love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.***

– Phillips Brooks, 19<sup>th</sup> century

## Lighting of the Candle of the Shepherds

### The Shepherd's Story

Spiritual — *"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"*

GO TELL IT

***Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.***

## Lighting the Candle of the Magi

### The Magi Story

Carol — *"We Three Kings"*

KINGS OF ORIENT

***We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.  
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.***

– John Hopkins, 19<sup>th</sup> century

## Lighting the Christ Candle

### The Nativity Story

Carol — *"Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come"*

ANTIOCH

***Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing ....  
He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love ....***

– Isaac Watts, 18<sup>th</sup> century

The Wondering Questions

The Reading of the Christmas Story

Carol — *“Silent Night! Holy Night”*

STILLE NACHT

*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! Wondrous Star lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

– Joseph Mohr, 19<sup>th</sup> century

The Peace

Gene Derryberry

*The peace of the Lord be with you.  
And also with you.*

Organ Postlude

*“Improvisation on GO TELL IT”*

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Assisting in tonight's ministry of worship are:

*D. Gene Derryberry, Intentional Interim Minister  
Paul M. Sims, Associate Minister  
Sara Spahr Stubbs, Associate Minister  
Timothy Belflowers, Organist*

Ushers will be at exists to receive an offering that will benefit  
the Union County Community Homeless Shelter

You are invited to join us for worship  
on Christmas morning at 10:45