



Reach One More For Jesus!

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2020

PRELUDE "What Child Is This" Thelma Downey

WELCOME Pastor Tom

OPENING CAROL "O Come, All Ye Faithful" vs. 1 Denise Cosgrove

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP Marilyn Casey

L: Good News! Unspeakable joy!

P: A great Light has burst forth, overcoming the darkness!

L: A Child is born for us—a Son has been given!

P: Bringing a kingdom of endless peace, we shall call Him Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God!

L: Come, let us see what God has brought us! Let us see what the Lord has done! Glory to God in the highest!

P: And on earth, peace and goodwill to all! Amen.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER Denise Cosgrove

O God of love, You have brought us together tonight and blessed us with Your very self. Open our eyes to the light of Christ which glows in the darkness of a world engulfed in apathy, pain and loss; a world separated from You. Speak to us now, that we may hear the good news of Your salvation. Bring us into the wonder of Your presence. Fill us with that light and carry it out with us into our lives. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting Ron & Sandra Glickman
Light the Hope, Love, Joy and Peace Candles

Reader One: Our Christmas Affirmation:

Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us; Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus.

Reader Two: It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ Candle.

We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah Whose coming was prophesied.

Reader One: The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ our hope is fulfilled; our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed.

Light the Christ Candle

Reader Two: Rejoice, a Savior is born.

All: A Savior is born, indeed. Joy to the world!

A SERVICE OF LESSONS and CAROLS

FIRST LESSON ~ Isaiah 9:2-7

Denise Cosgrove

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

CAROL "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

SECOND LESSON ~ Luke 1:26-35

Marilyn Casey

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

CAROL "WHAT CHILD IS THIS"

1. What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

THIRD LESSON ~ Luke 2:1-7

Denise Cosgrove

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL "ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY"

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

FOURTH LESSON ~ Luke 2:8-14

Marilyn Casey

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

CAROL "ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH"

1. Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

FIFTH LESSON ~ Luke 2:15-20

Denise Cosgrove

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CAROL "JOY TO THE WORLD"

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.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE "WHAT TIME IS CHRISTMAS?"

Pastor Tom

1. Time To Release My Fears.
2. Time To Renew My Faith.
3. Time To Receive Forgiveness.
4. Time To Rebuild Relationships.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Tom

Our Father Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

GIVING OUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING**DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Marilyn Casey

Blessed Lord, You have given us Your greatest gift—Your very Word come to earth, to live with us and through us; You have filled us with Your grace and truth—Your Holy Child sent to free us from our bonds. How can we repay such divine generosity? Receive our thanks and praise. As You have given to us, so now we share Your gifts and Your grace with a world in need. May this offering help bring Your light and love to those who still wander in darkness. Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING and CLOSING CAROL**CAROL "Silent Night, Holy Night" vs. 1 & 2**

1. 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.
2. 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!

BENEDICTION

Pastor Tom

POSTLUDE "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Thelma Downey