

this night, we are
**THOSE WHO
DREAM**
christmas eve

Voluntary

Jesu Bambino
Dan Montgomery, soloist

Pietro Yor

Welcome

Processional Hymn

Once in Royal David's City
Chris Bice, Dena Bice, Suzanne Graham, Neil Guy, Tammy Guy, vocalists

Liturgical Greeting

Blessed be the One, holy and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

Call to Worship

This year, we dreamed of world peace.
We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.
We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.
We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease.
We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.
For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.
So make room in your being to dream yet again,
Of a world without fear, and a God that draws near.
For it is almost Christmas.
Love is almost here.
May we dream to see, and hope to believe. Let us worship Holy God.

Candle Lighting Liturgy | The Christ Candle

In the beginning, God dreamed of a beautiful world.
In Egypt, the Israelites dreamed of freedom.
In the wilderness, the people dreamed of safety.
In Jerusalem, the people dreamed of a Messiah.
In Bethlehem, the shepherds and Wise Men dreamed of a new beginning.
Then, several years later, Jesus walked this earth and dreams came true.
The sick were healed.
The poor had food.
The forgotten and ignored were seen.

The children were welcomed.

Everyone was invited to the table, and the world has never been the same.

So tonight, we are those who dream.

Tonight, we dream the same dreams of our ancestors before us.

Tonight, we dream of justice and mercy, of love and kindness, of peace and hope.

Tonight we dream of a God that draws near to us out of unfailing love.

May this candle be a reminder that there will be a day when every dream will be fulfilled.

And until then, we will be those who dream.

Let us worship Holy God.

Song of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High

Chris Bice, Suzanne Graham, Neil Guy, Tammy Guy, Dena Losen, vocalists

The Collect for Christmas

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Together let us pray.

God of light, we thank you for giving us the gift of Jesus Christ. We come before you with wonder and delight that you come to us in the child born in a manger. Be with us on this day of birth and rebirth. Come, honor us with the presence of your gracious, joyful Spirit. Fill our weary hearts with renewed hope and joy. Rekindle in our souls the light of Christ. Glory to you in the highest, O God, glory in the highest! Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

Sing to the LORD a new song; *

sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *

and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *

let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, *

when he comes to judge the earth.

The New Testament Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Dan Montgomery, Jana Montgomery, Lucy Montgomery, vocalists

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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. 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!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Deacon As we join the angels and celebrate with joy the birth of the Son of God, let us offer prayers to God who gives new birth to sons and daughters in every place.

Litanist Our God, Emmanuel, while we meet tonight in warm fellowship and love, we pray for those who are still out in the cold.

May the light of Bethlehem's greatest Child, touch every dark place.

For those who because of persistent hatreds, terrorism or war, are far from the promise of peace and goodwill.

Come, Emmanuel, and help your servants complete the works of love and peace which you have launched.

For those who this night live in refugee camps, squat in derelict buildings, or sleep in back alleys or on park benches.

Come, Emmanuel, and aid all your lost and homeless children to find their true inheritance.

For those who are ill, at home or in hospital; the diseased and maimed, and the latest accident victims of our highways and streets.

Come, Emmanuel, and bring comfort and hope through those nurses and doctors who do your healing work this night.

For those grieving folk who for the first time are facing Christmas without a precious loved one at their side.

Come Emmanuel, and give to the grieving that deep soul-peace that no human voice or hand can offer.

For the church in every land, wherever it worships and works in peace, and especially where it lives under constant threat and persecution.

Come Emmanuel, and give all your people the assurance of your constant presence, and your all-sufficient grace.

And now, holy Friend, we pray for ourselves, that this Christmas may not pass in vain.

O Spirit of Christ, you are the very Word of God who became flesh, give each of us the will and the wisdom to back up our prayers with appropriate actions. To your praise and glory. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Table

The Offertory

Offertory Anthems

Carol of the Bells,

Mykola Lentovich, arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson

On the Water

GF Bach, arr. by Eric MacGorman

Chimes Choir

Chris Bice, Monica Brich, Suzanne Graham, Tammy Guy, Dan Montgomery,
Jana Montgomery, Amy Rech, Chris Rech

Doxology

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Neil Guy, Tammy Guy, vocalists

The Great Thanksgiving

Priest

And, as we come to this table, we are reminded that this is the table of Jesus, a banquet prepared for everyone. All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith, all who seek and all who struggle to find wholeness and compassionate paths to peace and justice, are welcome here.

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Breath of peace,

Giver of all life, Source of love that knows no boundaries.

Your song of wisdom rang out before the world began;

throughout the ages, your song of liberation has filled us with your hope for a world where:

those considered last and least are first and most; violence is overcome by the power of your

ancient love; and all siblings work together for peace. You bring our longings to birth, and send prophets to awaken us.

We thank you for those who,
like Mary, have the strength and courage to give birth to your love in the world;
for those who, like the shepherds, dare to seek out the Child of Bethlehem;
for those who, like the wise ones, actively challenge violent and oppressive powers.

We praise you that your everlasting light is shown to us
in womb and tomb, in cradle and cross, in tenderness and compassion.
And, as we give thanks for your coming among us, we proclaim your goodness by singing:

Sequence Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**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!**

God of hope, make this bread the means of our rebuilding,
this wine the medium of our transformation,
this table the foundation of our renewal,
and this community the place of our rebirth.

We remember Jesus, who on the night before he died, took a loaf of bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This is the new covenant; remember me."

Gracious God, Breath of peace, source of love, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one. Make us, though broken, whole.

And so we pray

Come, Holy Spirit, come. AMEN.

And so we join with our siblings around the world in the prayer of Jesus:

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Invitation to Communion

The Table is set. Come you seekers and you holy ones. Come you lost and you lonely ones. Come you faithful and you doubtful ones. Come take your place and receive God's hospitality. Come receive the goodness of our Lord, then share it with your neighbors, family, friends, and strangers. **We come to the Table to share in God's gifts for us.**

The Body of Christ. The Bread of Heaven. **Amen.**

*Join us, you who are near and you who are far away, in this communion of thanksgiving in your home.
Or, come to the church between 6-6:30pm to receive contactless communion in the circle drive.
Carolers will be outside to share their gifts of song.*

Communion Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adrienne Hodges, Brett Hodges, Isabel Hodges, vocalists

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of great joy, we praise and thank you for you have not left us alone. Each year you come to us, Emmanuel, God with us in a manger. Each time you come to us in the bread broken and the cup shared. May we, for whom the heavens have opened to proclaim that God is with us, go out to be Children of Light bringing the Good News of your Son's redeeming love to the world. Amen.

Hymn

Silent Night, Holy night

Sarah Mansfield, Don Agee, musicians
Franz Gruber, arr. Gary Lanier

Blessing

Go now, and join your voices with the song of joy in all creation.
Announce peace. Herald salvation. Let the earth know that God reigns.

And may God sustain you and those you love.
May Christ Jesus be born as Savior within you.
And may the Spirit reveal to you the glory
of the Christ Child, full of grace and truth. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Joy to the World

Choir
Chris Bice, Monica Brich, Suzanne Graham, Neil Guy, Tammy Guy, Dave Leigh, Dena Losen
Dan Montgomery, Jana Montgomery, Lucy Montgomery

Dismissal

Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Jesus.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

May God's hope, peace, joy, and LOVE be with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of God's hope, peace, joy, and LOVE.

Voluntaries

*Ding, Dong Merrily on High
Good Christian Men Rejoice*
Vincent Hodges, musician



Christmas Flowers & Greens



Thanks to all those who have contributed flowers and greens to our sanctuary.

In Memory of

Steve Wood, by Sally Wood

Billy Bryant, by Kathy Bryant

*Ed & Shirley Fowler, by Denny and Sue Fuller and
Amanda & Kennedy Kinna*

John Donnelly, by Beverly Donnelly

Dora Coen & Don Burich, by Suzy & Matt Coen

*Carl & Mary Cacciatore and Everett & Faye
Sheldahl, by Mary & Tom Sheldahl*

*Jacqueline & Morton Baker, Ruth & Neil E. Guy,
and Myrna & Luther Dooley
by Tammy & Neil Guy*

*Sheree Kunz, Peggy Rayner, Jane Kunz, Buzz
Graham, and Trudy Graham by Roger Kunz*

Jean McKinney, by Julie & John McKinney

*Jeannie & Bill Smith, Betty & Jack Douglas, Janet
Douglas Amos, Mary D. Macy, and Wes
Burlingame, by Jeanie & Bill Smith*

Martin Crandell, by Mary Crandell

Sandra Pray, by Ralph Pray

Francis Obegolu, by Nasa & Uzo Okpokiri

*Our parents - BJ & Al D'Anna and Joan & Elmo
Guelph by Lee & Paul D'Anna*

In Thanksgiving

Our family, by Tammy & Neil Guy

Lea & Bob Hollwager

*Our children & grandchildren
by Jeanie & Bill Smith*

All of our families, by Julie & John McKinney

Our families, by Annie & Bill Waskom

Our family & friends, by Kathy & Mark Larson

Good health, by Nasa & Uzo Okpokiri

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