

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Prelude
Welcome

(For the Nativity Story, we ask for congregation volunteers to play each character, Adults AND Children are welcome. Please watch during each song who and when to come to the stage)

Opening Hymn #93 “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” (Red Hymnal)
(While this is being sung we ask volunteers to play Mary & Joseph come forward and sit by the manger and remain there)

Reader - Luke 2:1-7

Hymn #148 “O Holy Night” (BLUE Hymnal) verses 1 & 3 Only

1) O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;
Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night, O night divine!
3) Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace:
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother. And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, Let all within us praise His holy name;
Christ is the Lord, Oh, praise His name forever! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim.

(While this is being sung, we ask that volunteers to play shepherds & 1 angel come to the stage)

Reader - Luke 2:8-12

Solo - Janet Ries “Mary Did You Know?”
(While this is being sung, we ask that volunteers of a few more angels come to the manger)

Reader - Luke 2:13-14

Hymn #89 “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Red Hymnal)
(While this is being sung, we ask that all the angels step towards the back of the stage)

Reader - Luke 2:15-20

Hymn #100 “O Come All Ye Faithful” (Red Hymnal)
(While this is sung, we ask for volunteers of 3 wisemen come to the manger)

Reader - Matthew 2:1-11

Hymn #166 “We Three Kings” (BLUE Hymnal)

1) We three kings of Orient are: Bearing gifts we traverse afar—field and fountain,
moor and mountain—Following yonder star.

*REFRAIN: O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, West
ward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light*

2) Born a King on Bethlehem's plain: gold I bring to crown Him again, King forever,
ceasing never Over us all to reign. *REFRAIN...*

3) Frankincense to offer have I: Incense owns a Deity night; Prayer and praising, all
men raising, Worship Him, God on high. *REFRAIN...*
4) Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breaths a life of gathering gloom—Sorr'wing, sighin,
bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stonecold tomb. *REFRAIN...*
5) Glorious now behold Him arise: King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia, Alleluia! Earth
to heav'n replies. *REFRAIN...*

(During this hymn, all participants may return to their seats)

Lighting of the Christ Candle/Advent Wreath

Sharing of the Light while singing...

Hymn #85 “Silent Night, Holy Night” (Red Hymnal)

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, Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia—Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

3) 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.

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Hymn #87 “Joy to the World” (Red Hymnal)

(1) Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let ev'ry
heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

(2) Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ; While
fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the
sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

(3) No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He
comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, far as the curse
is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

(4) He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nation prove The
glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His
love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

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Benediction

Postlude

The Candlelight Closing has for years been a favorite of Christmas
Eve worship services. When lighting the candles, please tip the unlit candle
towards the lit candle which is standing straight. After your candle is lit, the
flame must be fully enclosed within the plastic cup with the top of the flame
below the rim of the cup, to prevent drips and safer burning.

Thank you to everyone who participated in tonight's service.
This was something new to try and we hope everyone enjoyed the recreation
of the Nativity.

Please join us again on Sunday, December 28
for our morning worship at 9:30 AM, with Pulpit Supply.Dave Reck.
There will be NO Sunday School

Poinsettias

~In Memory of Chuck Haffner - Given by Jane Haffner

~In Memory of Cheryl's parents, Walter & Geneva Close and Grandparents William & Jacoba Faas; In Memory of Tom's parent, Betty Slowey and Grandmother Dorothea Garvey - Given by Cheryl Slowey

~In Loving Memory of family and friends who have gone before us - Given by Daniel & Linda Ulmer

~In Memory of our Parents - Given by Lynette & Wilbur Goehring

~In Memory of Dan Bouza, Ray & Mary Bouza, and Alfred & Gladys Souhrada - Given by Renae Bouza

~ In Memory of Darlene Cameron - Given by Mary & Jon Cameron

~In Honor of Teresa's parents (Lester & Shirley Muehlbeier) on their 72nd wedding anniversary on Dec. 27, and in Honor of new great granddaughter, Londyn Jade born in September - Given by Teresa & Rod Gall

Thank you to everyone

who donated poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas.

Please feel free to take them with you after tonight's service to **enjoy at home**.



*“Today in the town of David
a Savior has been born to you;
He is Christ the Lord.”
Luke 2:11*

RIVERVIEW REFORMED CHURCH

