



THE LIGHT

of the world

Zion Evangelical Church

December 24th, 2022 - Christmas Eve 6:00 pm

PRELUDES – *Lucy Mehrtens - piano*
Lucy Mehrtens - piano
Olivia Kaminski - singing
Isabelle Wolfmeier - clarinet
Mary Lu Bretsch

“Silent Night”
“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”
“Winter Wonderland”
“Jolly Old Saint Nick”
“Christmas Hymn Medley”

by Jane Lerner

RINGING OF THE BELL / WELCOME
LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Darren & Jessica Doerr family

Adore JESUS CHRIST the King!

* JOYOUS SONG

“Joy To The World”

vs 1 & 4 #181

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.
He rules the world with truth and grace, 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.

* CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

selected verses from John

Pastor In JESUS is life

People And HIS life is the Light of all people.

Pastor The Light of JESUS shines into the darkness,

People And the darkness can not overcome it.

Pastor The true Light of JESUS, which enlightens everyone,

People Has come into the world.

Pastor JESUS said, “I am the Light of the world.”

People “Whoever follows ME will never walk in darkness.”

Pastor JESUS said, “I have come as Light into the world,”

People “Everyone who believes in ME shouldn’t remain in the dark.”

Pastor JESUS said, “While you have the Light,”

People “Believe in the Light, so you may become children of Light.”

Pastor JESUS said, “As long as I am in the world,”

People “I am the Light of the world.”

Confess your Sins to JESUS CHRIST the Savior!

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Dear LORD GOD, on this joyous Christmas Eve, filled with the everlasting Light and Love of JESUS CHRIST, we come to YOU: To face the darkness of sin within our lives; by confessing it to YOU in this moment of Holy silence. *(please pray in silence)*

Dear FATHER, forgive us by the sacrifice of YOUR SON, JESUS, and truly change our sinful ways into YOUR Righteous ways by the working of YOUR HOLY SPIRIT within us. For we pray in JESUS’ Name. Amen!

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

John 3:16

For GOD so loved the world that HE gave HIS only SON, that whoever believes in HIM should not perish but have eternal life.

* RESPONSE

"Angels We Have Heard On High"
Glo---ria in excelsis Deo! (2 times)

Chorus of #184 – 2 times

Pray to JESUS CHRIST the Intercessor!

INTERCESSORY / THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & Debtors)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For THINE is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever, Amen.

OFFERING

"O Holy Night"

sung by Jawaun Pearson

Designated checks or envelopes, will go to support the ministries of the Salvation Army in the Belleville area. Please give generously.

* RESPONSE

"O Come, Let Us Adore HIM"

Chorus of # 199 – 2 times

O come let us adore HIM (3 times), CHRIST the LORD!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Hear JESUS CHRIST's birth in Scripture & Song!

SCRIPTURE READING #1 – *Dave Harres*

Luke 1:26-38

SONG

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

#176

**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.**

**Born THY people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now THY gracious kingdom bring.
By THINE own eternal SPIRIT Rule in all our hearts alone;
By THINE all sufficient merit, Raise us to THY glorious throne.**

SCRIPTURE READING #2 – *Joyce Tastad*

Matthew 1:18-25

SONG

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

vs 1 & 4 #175

**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!**

**O come, Desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

SCRIPTURE READING #3 – *Kay Mehrtens*

Luke 2:1-7

SONG

“Away in a Manger”

vs 1 & 2 #205

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord JESUS laid down HIS sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where HE lay,
The little Lord JESUS asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord JESUS, I ask THEE to stay,
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in THY tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with THEE there.

SCRIPTURE READING #4 – *Annette Hund*

Luke 2:8-14

SONG

“The First Noel”

vs 1 & 4 #180

The first Noel the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the KING of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord,
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Who hath made heav’n and earth of naught,
And with HIS blood mankind hath bought,
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the KING of Israel.

SCRIPTURE READING #5 – *Linda Hopfinger*

Luke 2:15-20

SONG

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

vs 3 & 4 #203

To you, in David’s town, this day, Is born of David’s line,
The Savior, who is CHRIST the LORD; And this shall be the sign: (2 x)

The heavenly Babe you there shall find, To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands, And in a manger laid. (2 x)

SCRIPTURE READING #6 – *Dave Woehlke*

Matthew 2:1-12

SONG

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

vs 1 & 5 #215

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.

Glorious now behold HIM arise: King and GOD and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia! Earth to heav’n replies.

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

SCRIPTURE READING #7 – *Vicki Pellmann*

John 1:9, 14-18

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in HIS hand,
CHRIST our GOD to earth descendeth, Our full homage to demand.

Rank on rank the host of heaven, Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth, From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish, As the darkness clears away.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

Leave to Serve JESUS CHRIST the LORD!

LIGHTING CANDLES

* CANDLE LIGHT HYMNS

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

vs 1 & 2 #192

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 the angelic host proclaim, "CHRIST is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!

CHRIST, by highest heav'n adored; CHRIST, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold HIM come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Vieled in flesh the GOD-HEAD see; Hail the incarnate DEITY,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, JESUS, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!

"Silent Night"

vs 1 & vs 2 in German – a cappella - #206

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar, Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht, Hirten erst kundgemacht
Durch der Engel Halleluja, Tönt es laut von fern und nah:
Christ, der Retter ist da! Christ, der Retter ist da!

"Silent Night"

vs 1 & 3 in English #206

Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright
Round you virgin mother and child! Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

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.

* BENEDICTION

from Revelation 22:21

Come, LORD JESUS! The grace of the LORD JESUS be with all the saints. Amen and Amen!

* POSTLUDE

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

arranged by Fred Bock

