

Christ

THE WORD...

THE LIGHT OF MEN...

SHINETH

IN THE DARKNESS

JOHN 1:1-5



Service for the Lord's Day

December 24, 2017

Christmas Eve

7:00 PM

PRELUDE Noël Grand Jeu et Duo d'Aquin (1694-1772)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *On This Day Angels Sing* Personent Hodie arr. Holst (1874-1934)

Lighting of the Christmas Candle (*Adapted from Is. 9 & 64, II Pt. 3, Ps. 126, Rom. 16*)

Leader: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

People: In Christ, there is light and life for all people.

Leader: We are the clay, Lord, and you are the potter.

People: We are the work of your hand.

Leader: God is not slow about his promise, but is patient.

People: Together we wait for new heavens and a new earth.

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us.

People: Restore our fortunes, Lord.

Leader: That which was kept secret is now disclosed.

People: To God be the glory forever!

Leader: 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.

People: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

*HYMN # 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High* Gloria

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 1:18-25 p.783

INTERLUDE *O Holy Night* Adam (1803-1856)
Celia Daggy, viola

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2: 1-7 P.832

HYMN # 115 *Away in a Manger* Mueller

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2: 8-14 p. 833

ANTHEM *In the Bleak Midwinter* Darke (1888-1976)
Maximilian Daggy, baritone

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:

In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
Enough for Him whom cherubim, worship night and day,
A breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay,
Enough for Him whom angels, fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel, which adore.
What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FOURTH SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Titus 2:11-14 p. 969

HOMILY *Mise en Place*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Adapted from, *A Brief Statement of Faith*, 1983

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,

we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,

whom alone we worship and serve.

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

HYMN #121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* St Louis

Leader: The People who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, upon them light has shined.

People: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

HYMN #122 *Silent Night* Stille Nacht

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Noël Suisse* d'Aquin (1694-1772)

**Please stand if able*