



Christmas Eve

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
December 24, 2021 7:00 pm Order of Worship

Prelude: *O Holy Night*, A. Adam

Dr. Larisa Soboleva, Music Director

Greeting

*Carol *O Come, All Ye Faithful* 234 vs. 1, 3

*Opening Prayer Worship Leader

God of Surprising Love and Hope, we come this evening to the manger, gazing lovingly on the Child born to bring hope to the world. Open our hearts tonight as we hear the story anew. Help us to be guided by the Light of Jesus Christ, that we may truly feel the power of your love and bring that love, with joy, to all we meet. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles (Titus 2:11-14)

I. The story of Mary: Luke 1:26-35

Carol *Away in a Manger* #217 vs. 1, 2

Response:

Leader: The Lord himself will give you a sign.

People: Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son.

Leader: And they shall name him Emmanuel,

People: Which means, God is with us. (Isaiah 7:14)

II. The story of Joseph: Matthew 1:18-21

Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #230 vs. 1-3

Response:

Leader: A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse.

People: And a branch shall grow out of his roots.

Leader: The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him.

People: The spirit of wisdom and understanding.

Leader: The spirit of counsel and might.

III. The story of the Angels: Luke 2:8-20

Carol

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

#240

Response:

Leader: Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings.

People: Lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings.

Leader: Lift it up, do not fear.

People: Say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" (Isaiah 10:9)

IV. The story of the Star: Matthew 2:1-2, 7-10

Remembering service people, first responders, those away from home: Robert James

Offertory Music: *Christmas Time is Here*, arr. R. Austin

Response:

Leader: Arise; shine, for your light has come.

People: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Leader: For darkness shall cover the earth,

People: And thick darkness the peoples.

Leader: But the Lord will arise upon you,

People: And his glory will appear over you. (Isaiah 60:1-2)

Sermon: *You've Got a Friend in Me*

Rev. Stephen Perrine

V. The story of Jesus' birth: Luke 2:1-7

*Carol

Joy to the World

#246 vs. 1, 3

Invitation to Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (hymnal page 15)

The Lord's Prayer (trespass)

The lesson of light John 1:1-14

Passing the light: Pastor will take the light from the Christ Candle and pass the light to the first person in each pew. Pass the light to the person next to you. Tip only the unlit candle! As candles are lit, we will join in singing.

*Carol

Silent Night, Holy Night

#239 vs. 1-3

*Christmas Blessing

Rev. Stephen Perrine

Postlude: *Christmas Medley*, Meier

*Stand as able