

this night, we are
THOSE WHO
DREAM
christmas eve



Our Worship of God

December 24, 2020

5:00 pm

⌘ Online Christmas Eve Worship ⌘

Pre-Service Music

Colleen Ostercamp

Greeting

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Prelude

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
Chancel Bells

*At this time, we invite you to gather communion elements
as we celebrate communion later in the service.*

Call to Worship (responsive)

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, together.

Opening Hymn 155

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.*

*How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven!
No ear may hear his coming,
But in the world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still
The dear Christ enters in.*

*O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.*

Lighting of the Advent Candles (responsive)

Kimberly Moeller

We believe in hope.

We believe that to hope is to dream with our eyes wide open.

Light the candle of hope

We believe in peace.

We believe that peace is not found by accident. Prepare the way.

Light the candle of peace.

We believe in joy.

**We believe that joy is angel choruses and gifts from the Magi,
As well as soul food, big tables,
Open doors, candlelight, fireside,
Singing in the shower, and the body of Christ gathered as one.**

Light the candle of joy.

We believe in love.

**We believe that God loves us so much that God
could not stay away.
So God showed up as a child.
We believe that that love is real, and we know that it changes us.**

Light the candle of love.

Therefore, we believe in the power of dreams,

**And we believe that nightmares, which are all
too real here and now,
Will have no place in God's promised day.**

Until then, we believe in passing the light,
In showing up, in doing the work,
In listening for angel choruses, and in learning from the youngest among us.

We believe.

Help our unbelief. Amen.

Song of Praise

Awakening Praise Band

O Holy Night

*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
O hear the angel voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born*

*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
O praise His name forever
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim
Fall on your knees
O hear the angel voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born
O night divine
O night O night divine*

Luke 2:1-20

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!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Away in a Manger

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Lynne Lampe

Message

Brittany McDonald Null

This Night, We Are Those Who Dream

Holy Communion

Song of Praise

Awakening Praise Band

Joy to the World

*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*

*We will sing sing sing
Joy to the world
We will sing sing sing*

*Joy to the World 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*

*We will sing sing sing
Joy to the world
We will sing sing sing*

*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*

*We will sing sing sing
Joy to the world
We will sing sing sing*

*Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Op'ning to the sun above
Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Op'ning to the sun above*

*We will sing sing sing
Joy to the world
We will sing sing sing*

Sharing the Light of Christmas

*Christ, the light of the world, gives each one of us light,
so that we too may shine with gratitude, hope, and love.
May the candles in your homes illuminate your space
and warm your heart,
as we receive the light,
gaze upon it, and are thankful.*

*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.*

*Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

*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

Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
Blow out your candles now,
But take the light of Christ into the world with you!

Postlude

Worship Notes

O Little Town of Bethlehem, Words: Phillips Brooks, 1868. Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1868.

O Holy Night, CCLI Song # 7018955, John Sullivan Dwight | Kurtis Parks | Placide Cappeau
Communion Litany, — Copyright © Mark Rowland, on Mark Rowland Worship Resources website.

Joy to the World, CCLI Song # 7128618, George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts | Phil Wickham

Silent Night, Words: Joseph Mohr, 1818, tr. John F. Young, 1863. Music: Franz Gruber, 1818.

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