

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2006

7:30 p.m.

Organ Prelude

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit “Looking for the Light”

Schram

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Entrance of the Light

We light this candle as a sign of the light of Christ. “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.”

**“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom
God favors.”**

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.
Let us pray.

**Eternal God, this holy night is radiant
with the brilliance of your one true light.
As we have known the revelation of that
light on earth, bring us to see the splendor
of your heavenly glory; through Jesus
Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen**

***Hymn: #41** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

***Prayer of Adoration**

Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Page: OT 638

Hymn: #31 “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

Scripture: Luke 2:1-7

Page: NT 58

Anthem: “Our Lord Emmanuel” McGee/Fettke
Minerva Lermond: Triangle

Scripture:

Luke 2:8-20

Page: NT 58

Solo:

“In the Bleak Mid-Winter”

Rosetti/Darke

Sarah McCann

Meditation:

“Poverty and Abundance”

***Hymn #28:**

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice”

***Scripture:** John 1:1-5, 14 (in unison)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory: “O Holy Night” arr. Leavitt
Women’s Chorus
Lisa Raker, Soprano Soloist

Reception of Offerings by Ushers

*Presentation

*Response of Praise: tune #56

**Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav’nly Lord,
That hath made heav’n and earth of nought,
And with His blood our life hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.**

A Christmas Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

***Hymn #60:** “Silent Night, Holy Night”

Benediction: Matthew 5:16

Page: NT 4

Steeple Bell

Organ Postlude

ABOUT THE CANDLES: *Please use great caution in handling lighted candles so as to avoid being burned or burning others with either the flame or hot wax. Always hold a lighted candle upright. When receiving the light, tip the unlighted candle toward the lighted one. The ushers will move through the church to light the candle of the first person in each row. When the candles are lighted, the remaining lights in the sanctuary will be extinguished and remain out throughout the singing of “Silent Night, Holy Night.” When the hymn is finished, extinguish your candle for the benediction. The sanctuary lights will be restored at the beginning of the Postlude. Please wait until the organ plays to leave your pew.*

Ushers: *John Hopkins & Joanne Hopkins,
Bob, Lyn and Rachel Briggs

December

- Monday 12/25 Office Closed – A Blessed Christmas!**
- Thursday 12/28 7:30pm Al-Anon Meeting**
- Sunday 12/31 No Sunday School**
11:00am Worship
12:00pm Fellowship
7:00pm Progressive Dinner
10:00pm Worship
10:45pm Dessert @ Manse