

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year



✧ Christmas Eve 2022 7pm ✧

Advent Candle Lighting:

In this season of expectant waiting,
we have held hope in our hearts;

**hope that in the Infant Jesus
is our promise for transformation.**

(the candle of Hope is lit)

Hope leads us to pray for peace, acting peacefully
to cultivate harmony in all our relations

In that peace, we find the Prince of Peace.

(the candle of Peace is lit)

Peace transforms into joyful celebration;
walls torn down, chasms filled, barriers levelled valleys bridged.

Joy inspires us to dance with abandon.

(the candle of Joy is lit)

Joy embraced, fosters love that makes all things new

**And, in that newness
we discover the deep meaning of love shared.**

(the candle of Love is lit)

Love, self-given through self-emptying, through humility
shows us the Christ, still completely vulnerable

yet filled with promise.

(the Christ candle is lit)

Hymn # 6 “A Candle Is Burning” Verse 5 (Please remain seated)

***Hymn # 60 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

Call to Worship:

Glory to God! It is a wonderful night!

The night we gather to share in the Christmas story!

The night we relive the marvel and excitement
of a newly born child.

**We come together as one in worship
and to adore Emmanuel, the child of God.**

We come tonight to experience God born anew within us all.

This is a holy night.

This is a night of wonder. Come, let us worship!

Choir Anthem ~ “Sing We Now of Christmas”

Opening Prayer:

God of Innocence and Love,
you came on a cold, deep night
to lonely shepherds watching their flock.

Thank you, God of the starlit night!

Angels’ voices rang out over the hills
with a story of a precious birth
and a hymn of rejoicing.

Thank you, God of angelic voices!

You were wrapped in swaddling cloth,
laid in an animal manger.

Your first visitors were animals and shepherds.

Thank you, God of the welcoming stable!

You brought with you new hope for tomorrow,
love and peace for the earth.

Thank you, God of new hope!

**On this night, with all the earth,
we are rejoicing. Amen.**

Children’s Story

Solo ~ “Do Not Be Afraid” ~ sung by Aimee Clifford

Communion

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-14

Choir Anthem ~ “Sing Lullaby”

Meditation

***Hymn # 74 “What Child Is This?”**

The Offering / Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Benediction

***Hymn # 67 “Silent Night, Holy Night”**