Christmas Eve

at
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
Bloomington, IN

December 24, 2021
5:30 pm
PRELUDE                   He Is Born          arr. Albin C. Whitworth (b. 1938)  
Jihye Choi, Organist

GREETINGS & WELCOME        Will Jewsbury & Sarah Lynne Gershon

INTROIT                  O Holy Night         Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)
                      Matthew Griffin, soloist
                      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, Oh hear the angel voices!
                      O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
                      O night, O holy night, O night divine.
                      - Placide Cappeau, 1843; tr. John S. Dwight, 1855

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Congregation read text in **bold.**)

The light has come, as the prophet said!

**Peace on earth, good will to all people!**

Tonight we welcome the child of heaven:

**The good news of a great joy for all people.**

We call his name Jesus, meaning God saves; Emmanuel, which means…

**God is with us.**

*OPENING CAROL  148 (vss. 1, 2, 4)  O Come, All Ye Faithful  ADESTÉ FIDELES

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him, born the King of angels; (**Refrain**)

2 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to to God, all glory in the highest; (**Refrain**)

4 Yea, Lord we greet thee, born for our salvation, Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; (**Refrain**)

**Refrain:**

O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Words and Music: John Francis Wade, 1743; tr. Frederick Oakley, 1841, and others

*Please stand as you are able.
THE CANDLE OF THE PROPHETS IS LIT

Tate Knepper

Carol 135 Blessed Be the God of Israel M ERLE’S TUNE

1 Blessed be the God of Israel
who comes to set us free
Who visits and redeems us
And grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy,
of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise
To bring our people peace.

2 Now from the house of David
a child of grace has come,
a Savior who will lead us
to our eternal home.
Before him goes the herald,
forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation,
the harbinger of day.


THE CANDLE OF THE HOLY FAMILY IS LIT

Maya Norris

Call and Response 131 Song of Mary (Congregation read text in bold.)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my savior,
who has looked with favor on me, a lowly servant
From this day all generations shall call me blessed
The Almighty has done great things for me,
And holy is the name of the Lord,
Whose mercy is on those who fear God
From generation to generation.

The arm of the Lord is strong
And has scattered the proud in their conceit
God has cast down the mighty from their thrones
And lifted up the lowly!
God has filled the hungry with good things
And sent the rich away empty.
God has come to the aid of Israel, the chosen servant,
Remembering the promise of mercy,
The promise made to our forebears,
To Abraham and to his children forever

Carol 147 Away in a Manger AWAY IN A MANGER

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

What Child is this, who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Chorus:
This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ, who comes in lowly birth.
Come, adore on bended knee
Jesus, joy of heaven and earth.
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Words: Traditional French Carol  Music: arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

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.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

(Continued on next page)
Joy to the World (Continued)

3 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.


All children are invited to exit with adult helpers to put on simple costumes over their clothes. They will return to create a nativity scene during the singing of “Silent Night.”

Solo Carol   The Little Drummer Boy   arr. Michael G. Sinshack
Matthew Griffin, soloist   Will Jewsbury, drum

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see, pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum
So to honor Him, pa rum pum pum pum when we come.

Mary nodded, pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum
I played my best for Him, pa rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum
Then he smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum
Me and my drum

Words and Music by Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati and Harry Simeone
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INVITATION TO GIVING

*OFFERTORY CAROL  173 (vs. 3)   As With Gladness   DIX

As they offered gifts most rare
At the manger, plain and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin’s alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, from whom they spring.

Words: William C. Dix, 1861   Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838; arr. W. H. Monk, 1861
PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

Lord’s Prayer
Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name;
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Carol 150  Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  MENDELSSOHN
arr. W. H. cummings, 1856

1 Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

3 Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings,
mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739  Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

SCRIPTURE  John 1:1-5
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 the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.

SPREADING THE LIGHT  Noah and Tate Knepper
Lighting the Candles

Carol  Silent Night  STILLE NACHT

1 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.

2 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!

(Continued on next page)
Silent Night (continued)

3 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.

4 Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
   with the angels let us sing,
   alleluia to our King;
   Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

Words: Joseph Mohr, 1818; tr. John F. Young    Music: Franz Gruber, 1818

CHANGING THE LIGHT

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE  Angels We Have Heard on High    arr. Harold Decou (b. 1932)
           Jihye Choi, organ

You are invited to take photos of the Nativity scene during the Postlude.
Afterwards, please have children return costumes to black bags for laundering.

A small gift is available for all children at the exits.

Thank You to our Nativity Costume Crew: Diane Thrasher, Danie Norris, and Jetta Norris
Thank You also to our greeters: Gale Hill and Joanne Weddle and our lighting expert John Adams.

Thank you to artist Joe Lee who created the work of art during our service and
also thanks to Bob Bernacki who constructed the frame and canvas.

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As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, join us the
day after Christmas, Sunday December 26,
for an informal service complete with favorite
carols, communion and a cookie exchange to
follow! Worship will begin at 10:00 am both
in person and online at

www.fccbloomington.org.
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Rev. Will Jewsbury

Student Associate Pastor
Sarah Lynne Gershon

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Dr. Jan Harrington, director of music
Jihye Choi, organist, handbell choir
director and assistant music director

Youth and College Ministries
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Linda Abe

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John Adams

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Office Hours
Monday to Thursday
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Ways to Give to FCC

Automatic Payment with your Bank

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47408

Online Giving link on our website:
www.fccbloomington.org

Text to Give:
844-298-8978

Include the amount in your text message line. You may receive a text reply with a link and instructions to complete your contribution.

An Invitation to Community

As God has welcomed us, we welcome you.

With all our differences--
in age, ability and physical condition,
in race, cultural background and economic status,
in sexual orientation, gender identity & family
structure--

God has received each one
with loving kindness, patience and joy.

All that we are together
and all that we hope to be
is made more perfect
as the richness of varied lives
meets the mystery of God’s unifying Spirit

and we become the Body of Christ.

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
BLOOMINGTON, IN
DIVERSE IN THOUGHT | UNITED IN FAITH | CALLED TO SERVE