

Welcome to First Church!

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021 ~ 7:00pm

*We pray that the baby in the manger will be welcomed into your heart and that you may
Know the blessing of being prized wholeheartedly,
loved unceasingly, and rescued for eternity!*

Prelude *Coventry Carol* Don Gillis

Welcome & Greeting Micah 5:2-4

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*Carol *O Come All Ye Faithful* No. 234

**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;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.
Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation;
O Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.**

*The Christmas Affirmation

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem. I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings joy to persons all over the world. I believe in the one for whom the crowded Inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

I believe in the one whom the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons with hungry hearts. I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible. I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for what really mattered and whose love brought sinners back to a right relationship with God. I confess my ever-lasting need of God: The need of forgiveness for my selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold. I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God, born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the whole world. Amen

*Christmas Greeting

Carol

What Child is This

No. 219

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? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, hast to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, hast to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, hast to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Christmas Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called, Emmanuel
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called, Emmanuel**

*Carol

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

No. 240

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"
Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, off-spring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De-ity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"
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, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Worship Through Giving

Offertory – Duet

I wonder as I Wonder

Carol

The First Noel

No. 245

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.
They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel. And by the light of that same star three Wise Men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Message

Just in the Nick of Time

Dr. Ed

Galatians 4:4-5

Solo

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Lighting of the Christmas Candles

The Ushers will light the candle of the person nearest the aisle.

Passages of Light



Please DO NOT DIP A LIGHTED CANDLE!!

*Carol

Silent Night

No. 239

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.

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!

*Extinguishing of the Christmas Candles

*Carol

Joy to the World

No. 246

**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
and nature sing.**

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

**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.**

*Benediction

*Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus

Walter Barnes

*If you are able, please stand

A special thank you to our Brass Quintet and vocalist, Elizabeth Emmett

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Welcome To Our Family!

Sunday Worship 9:00am Family Life Center
 10:30am Sanctuary

On Sundays December 26, 2021 and January 2, 2022, we will have **one worship service in the Sanctuary at 10:00am*

Merry Christmas

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