

Christmas Eve Family Service Sunday, December 24, 2023

Gathering Music Cordova Praise Band

Welcoming

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Opening Hymn **O Come, All Ye Faithful** (Voices United 60)

*Words: English trans. Frederick Oakeley 1841, et al;
Music: attrib. John Francis Wade ca. 1743*

- 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;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
- 2 God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
- 4 See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

- 5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be 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.

Christmas Prayer

Anthem Hurry to Bethlehem

From 'Seekers Of The Light' by Lloyd Larson & Mark Hayes

The Christmas Story

City of Bethlehem (Choir)	"noises of the city"
Joseph (men)	"where is my hammer?"
Mary (women)	"aaaaaw"
Angels (angel children)	"Peace"
Shepherds (shepherd children)	"Baa"
Wise Ones (everyone)	"E=MC squared"
Jesus (children)	"Giggle, giggle"

Hymn **Away in a Manger** (Voices United 69)

Words: Author unknown

Music: William James Kirkpatrick 1895; arr. Desmond Hassell 1992

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- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright 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 you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

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

Reflection “Christmas Chaos Confusion”

Hymn of the Day **The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy**
(Voices United 73)

*Words and Music: West Indian carol
from Edric Conner Collection of Est Indian Spirituals 1945, arr. John Barnard 1982
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- 1 The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
and they say that his name is Jesus.

Refrain He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.

- 2 The angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus. *Refrain*
- 3 The shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus. *Refrain*

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Music (Johanna de Leeuw)

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow!

Traditional Spiritual, arr. by Mark Hayes

Choral Response **In the Bleak Midwinter**
(Voices United 55, v.4)

Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti ca. 1872; Music: Gustav Theodor Holst 1906

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I was a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise one, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

Offering Prayer

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Candle Lighting

Special Music Silent Night! Holy Night!

Franz Xavier Gruber; arr. by Phil Perkins

Hymn **Silent Night! Holy Night!** (Voices United 67)

*Words: Joseph Mohr 1818, English trans. John Freeman Young 1863, et al.,
Music: Franz Xavier Grüber 1818*

- 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 Hallelujah,
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

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.

Sending Forth

Choral Benediction **Go, Tell it on the Mountain**
(Voices United 43)

Words: John Wesley Work II 1907

Music: African-American spiritual 19th century, arr. United Reformed Church (U.K.)

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Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere,
Go tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born!

Postlude (Cordova Praise Band)

Feliz Navidad

by Jose Feliciano

*“From our house to yours, wishing you all the blessings of
Christmas and health and happiness in the New Year.”
Merry Christmas!*

Cordova Bay United Church

Worship Leaders – Pastor Beth Parsons
Music Leader – Sharon Prindle-Collins
Cordova Praise Band led by Glenn Parsons
Flutist – Johanna de Leeuw
Greeters – Joanne Thomas and Alida and Ben Thomas Bloomquist
Christmas Prayer – Rev. Mark Collins
Offering Invitation and Prayer – Stephen Godfrey
Technical Support – Sam Boehner and Jiemei Li