

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Prelude Brian Sampson

Words of Welcome Rev. William Kren

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the -\*  
earth!

**People: Glory to God in the highest heaven, peace on earth  
to all!**

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God, let the earth  
rejoice, let trees of the forest sing for joy!

**People: Glory to God in the highest heaven, peace on earth  
to all!**

Leader: For a child is born for us, a Son is given to us.

**ALL: In Him was Life, and the life was the light of all  
people.**

\*Opening Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Pilgrim Hymnal # 132

### \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God of the Baby of Bethlehem, we come into your presence with  
praise and thanksgiving. We hear the glad tidings of angelic voices;  
We come to experience this good news of great joy for all the people.  
As the shepherds traveled to Bethlehem, we have traveled here –  
excited, expectant, and hopeful. Let the words of sacred scripture seep  
into our hearts, to be treasured and pondered anew. We are here; we  
are ready, O God! Let the light of your love break forth! Amen.

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

We relight four candles representing the four weeks of Advent as we  
await the blessed hope of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Three candles  
symbolize gifts of Jesus Christ to us: Peace, Love, Hope, and Joy!

## THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Tonight is the night for which we have all been waiting. Our Advent wreath will now be  
completed by the lighting of our Christ candle. ***"For to us a child is born, to us, a son  
is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.."*** With the  
birth of Jesus, our lives have been changed. We light this candle to represent that Jesus  
Christ is Lord and Savior – He is the center of our lives. Amen.

## CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

### THE CHRISTMAS STORY

**Luke 1:26-35, 38**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

**John Peters**

PH #116

**Luke 2:1-7**

**Special Music – Ray and Jay Carter**

**Nancy Wolter**

**Luke 2:8-14**

*"The First Nowell"*

**Jay Carter**

PH #141

**Matthew 2:1-11**

*"Joy to the World"*

**Sue Kren**

PH #130

## CHRISTMAS HOMILY

**Rev. William Kren**

### THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

As the ushers light the candle of the person seated on the aisle and the flame is  
passed from one to another, worshippers are cautioned never to tip the burning  
candle. Tip only the unlit candles to receive the flame.

***"Silent Night, Holy Night"***

**Pilgrim Hymnal #138**

We are thankful that you have chosen to worship with us on this Holiest of  
evenings. As we honor the gift we receive through the birth of the Christ Child,  
may our service of worship and fellowship be a gift to all who attend.

## **Poinsettias**

The poinsettia plants that adorn the chancel are from the following people. They may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service.



**December 24, 2018  
Christmas Eve Service**