Voluntary

“Carol Medley”

*Chris Beal, pianist*

*Nancy Ryan, organist*

Opening Prayer (*in unison*)

Gracious God,

with joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people.

We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ’s birth.

In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts

that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time.

Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world

and sing in the stillness of our hearts. Amen.
Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

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.

True God of true God, Light from Light eternal.
Lo, He shuns not the virgin’s womb.
Son of the Father, begotten, not created.
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.
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.

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Anthem

“O Holy Night”

Natalie Krupansky, soloist
Nancy Ryan, accompanist

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-8

Christmas Eve Homily

Rev. Chandler
Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God,
we confess that often we find darkness more comfortable than light.
We confess that we find your good news frightening and unsettling,
especially when we consider it calls us to share it with others.
Forgive us and transform us.
Give us the courage to lay ourselves open
to the wonder and healing of your coming.
Be born again into our world and lives.
In your mercy, hear our prayers:

(silent confession)

Assurance of Pardon

L: The true light that enlightens all has come into the world.
That light shines on in the darkness,
and the darkness has never been able to put it out.
This is the good news: God hears our confession and forgives our sin.
P: Thanks be to God!

The Great Thanksgiving

The 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving after receiving

We are filled with joy for we have heard good news of great joy.
We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God’s great love.
We are filled with hope that angels still sing in our world
and there is a Light of peace for us to follow. Amen.
“Silent Night”

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

Benediction

Rev. Chandler

Postlude

“Joy to the World”

Chris Beal, pianist
Nancy Ryan, organist

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