

WE EXIST TO... GROW IN CHRIST, LOVE LIKE CHRIST, LIVE FOR CHRIST

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

O HOLY NIGHT (please stand)

Verse 1

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, 'Til 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! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Verse 2

Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace. Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother.

And in His name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we; Let all within us praise His holy name. Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine!

HOPE CANDLE

Scripture Reading: John 1:1–18

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS (please remain seated)

Verse 1
Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Verse 2
Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

FAITH CANDLE

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1–7

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL (please stand)

Verse 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!

Chorus

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

Verse 2
Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

Verse 3
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing!

JOY CANDLE

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:8–20

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING (please remain standing)

Verse 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 th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Verse 2

Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord! Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th'incarnate Deity, Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Verse 3

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

PEACE CANDLE

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

(please be seated)

Verse 1
O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;

The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

Verse 2

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

Verse 3
O holy Child of Bethlehem!
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord, Emmanuel!

CHRIST CANDLE

Devotional

SILENT NIGHT (CANDLE LIGHTING) (please stand)

Verse 1
Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round you virgin mother and Child!
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Verse 2 Silent night! holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight. Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing: "Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

Verse 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.

JOY TO THE WORLD! (please remain standing)

Verse 1
Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Verse 2
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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!