

WORSHIP SERVICE **Wednesday, December 24, 2008** **4:30p**

PRELUDE "At the Cradle of Jesus" Bingham
"Good Christian Men Rejoice" J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The people who walked in darkness

All: Have seen a great light.

One: They lived in a land of shadows.

All: But now light is shining on them.

One: You have given them great joy, Lord.

All: You have given them peace and love.

One: The people who walked in darkness

All: Have seen a great light. Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

***CAROL** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 41

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Flemming Family

***PRAYER**

Let us pray for the true Christmas joy. Lord God, we thank you for making this holy night shine with the true light of your son. As we celebrate his birth as a human child, fill us with the joy of heaven. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS

Isaiah Prophecies

CAROL "Once in Royal David's City" (vs.1-3) No. 49

Mary Bears a Son

ANTHEM "Silent Night" Gruber
Kids of the Kingdom choirchimes

Jesus is Born

CAROL "Away in a Manger" No. 25

The Shepherds

CAROL "Angels We Have Heard on High" No. 23

ANTHEM "Gesù Bambino" Yon
Leah Boccardi, alto

KID'S CORNER Rev Dr. Donald R. Ewing

CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY "What Child is This?" arr. Crisafulli
Jeannie Schott, flute

SCRIPTURE Titus 2:11-14 N.T. Page 215

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE **Rev. Dr. Donald R. Ewing**

ANTHEM "The Little Road to Bethlehem" Head
Anne Linaberger, soprano

CHRISTMAS LITANY

Let us pray.

We rejoice with Mary and Joseph, the angels, and the shepherds, at the birth of our Lord Jesus. Let us now ask him to help us.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

When the time was right, you came to earth as one of us. Help those who wait for you to recognize your coming.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

You have come to live among us, full of grace and truth. Live in our hearts, and show your grace to others through us.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

You have brought us pardon and peace with our heavenly Father. Help us to please him by living at peace with each other.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

Your birth brought blessing to Mary and Joseph. Bless our homes this Christmas, and make our families a blessing to others.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

You gave up your riches in heaven, and were born among the poor here on earth. Show those who are poor your love through us.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

You are the Prince of Peace, and Lord of all. Guide the nations of the world, and help them to work together for justice and peace.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

You took on our human weakness. Strengthen the weak, heal the sick, and comfort those who suffer.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

You have brought great joy to all people. Gladden those who are sad, lonely, and depressed.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

Your birth brings us light and life. Comfort the dying with the light of your presence, and lead them through death to eternal life.

Lord Jesus, hear us.

As we travel on the journey to our heavenly home, let your light shine on us, so that we may see your glory and, together and with the angels and all your people, praise our heavenly Father both now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING THE LIGHT

CAROL "Silent Night, Holy Night" No. 60

CHARGE AND BLESSING

RESPONSE "Joy to the World" (vs. 1 & 4) No. 40

* **POSTLUDE** "Ding Dong Merrily on High" arr. Bedford

*All Who Are Able May Stand

THE CHURCH OFFICE is closed December 24th and will reopen January 2nd. Rev. Ewing may be reached by his cell phone and church phone messages will be picked up daily.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28th - single worship service at 10:00a - please note the time.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2009 - Sacrament of Communion at both services.

