

# *The Chapel in the Pines*

**December 24, 2024**

**Serving our Community by Preaching, Teaching,  
and Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ**

## *A Christmas Eve Service of Candles, Carols and Communion*



**The flowers on the Communion table this week  
are given to the Glory of God by Amie Collins**

**And also**

**Flowers are given to the Glory of God  
by Bruce & Sandi Keyser.**

**Gathering Music**

**The Chiming of the Trinity**

**The Prelude**

**\*A Reading from the Old Testament**                      Isaiah 9:2, 6  
*For a child has been born for us, a son given to us...*

**\*The Call to Worship**                      Star Child                      Murray/Young

Choir singing...

Star-Child, earth-Child, go between of God,  
love Child, Christ Child, Heaven's lightning rod,  
This year, this year, let the day arrive  
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

Come, Lord Jesus, Come.  
**Come into our hearts today.**

Congregation singing...

**Street child, beat child, no place left to go,  
hurt child, used child, no one wants to know,  
This year, this year, let the day arrive  
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

Open our hearts today, Lord Jesus.  
**Help us to receive you.**

Congregation singing...

**Grown child, old child, memory full of years,  
sad child, lost child, story told in tears,  
This year, this year, let the day arrive  
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

Help us to reach out to each other, Lord Jesus.  
**Illuminate our path this night.**

Congregation singing...

**Spared Child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,  
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store,  
This year, this year, let the day arrive  
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

Remind us of the needs of the world, Lord Jesus.  
**Help us to witness to your Light by serving others.**

Congregation singing...

**Hope for peace Child, God's stupendous sign,  
down to earth Child, Star of stars that shine,  
This year, this year, let the day arrive  
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!**

**The Choir's Anthem**

**The Invocation and 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 and ever...Amen.**

**\*The Psalm of Thanksgiving and Praise**

Adapted from Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

**Sing to the Lord! Bless God's name!**

**Share the news of the Lord's saving work every single day!**

Declare God's glory among the nations;  
declare the Lord's wondrous works among all people  
because God is great and so worthy of praise.

**Our God is awesome beyond all other gods  
because all the gods of the nations are just idols,  
but it is the Lord who created heaven!**

Greatness and grandeur are in front of the Lord;  
strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.

**Give to the Lord, all families of the nations—  
give to the Lord glory and power!**

**Give to the Lord the glory due his name!**

**Bring gifts! Enter his courtyards!**

Bow down to the Lord in God's holy splendor!

Tremble before the Lord, all the earth!

**Tell the nations, "The Lord rules!**

**Yes, God set the world firmly in place; it won't be shaken.**

**He will judge all people fairly."**

Let heaven celebrate! Let the earth rejoice!

**Let the sea and everything in it roar!**

**Let the countryside and everything in it celebrate!**

**Then all the trees of the forest**

**will shout out joyfully before the Lord because he is coming!**

The Lord is coming to establish justice on the earth.

He will establish justice in the world rightly.

He will establish justice among all people fairly.

**Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

**Sing to the Lord and bless God's name forever!**

**\*Hymn**

#131 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

**1** Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

**2** Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing,  
Yonder shines the infant Light:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

**3** Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

**4** Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

**The Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Luke 1:39-55

*...and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them...*

Congregation singing to the tune of *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen...*

**The can-dles burn, all five a-light, the day at last is come.  
The Sa-viour's birth we ce-le-brate; let fear and gloom be gone.  
For hope and peace and love and joy be-long to everyone.  
Light a can-dle for J-e-sus the King. Wel-come him!  
Light a c-an-dle for J-e-sus the King.**

### **The Call to the Offering**

Because God so loved the world,  
God sent the Son into the world.

**In response to this good news of great joy,  
we offer songs of praise, tithes and offerings, and acts of service.**

### **The Offertory**

\*Congregation singing, *In the Bleak Midwinter*

**Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air,  
but only his mother, in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the Beloved with a kiss.**

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,  
if I were a wise man I would do my part,  
yet what I can I give him, give my heart.**

### **\*The Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn** #137 What Child Is This?

**1** What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

#### **Refrain:**

This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

**2** Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading. **[Refrain]**

**3** So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him. **[Refrain]**

### **The Prayer of Illumination**

**A Reading from the Gospels** John 1:1-5, 14, 17-18  
*And the Word became flesh and lived among us...*

**Homily**            There Is Room In My Heart for Thee

## **Special Music**

### **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Our Lord God is with us, lift your hearts and voices high,  
let us give thanks to the Lord everywhere and at all times.

Congregation singing...

**O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

God, all glory be to you at this blessed Christmas time;  
for the gift of your own dear Son, born a poor child, peasant king.  
For the love you sent to us, for the life he shared with us,  
for the sacrifice he made; Lord of Lords and King of Kings.

Congregation singing...

**We'll praise His name forever, we'll praise His name forever,  
we'll praise His name forever, Christ the Lord.**

O God, on the night before he died, the Lord Jesus took bread and after giving you thanks, he took it and broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take. Eat. This is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Congregation singing...

**We'll give Him all the glory, we'll give Him all the glory,  
we'll give Him all the glory, Christ the Lord.**

When we eat this bread and when we drink this cup  
we proclaim the saving life, death, and resurrection  
of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ until he comes again.

Congregation singing...

**For He alone is worthy, for He alone is worthy,  
for He alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.**

Now accept our sacrifice as a surrender of ourselves.  
Send your Holy Spirit on us here and on these gifts.  
Help us, through this bread and cup to know the presence of Christ.  
Make us one with him today and one with all who seek peace on earth.

Congregation singing...

**O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

*All are invited to receive Communion regardless of age, religious affiliation, or denominational background. Jesus is the host of this meal and He invites all who would come. If you would come down the center aisle as the ushers direct you, with your two hands cupped to receive the bread and then the cup will be offered...following that there is a place to dispose of your cup. Please return to your seats by the side aisles.*

The gifts of God for the people of God...**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

**\*The Light of Christ**

\*Hymn #147 Silent Night! Holy Night!

**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 alleluia;  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior 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.

\*Hymn #138 Go Tell It on the Mountain

**Refrain:**

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.

**1** While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. **[Refrain]**

**2** The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior's birth. **[Refrain]**

**3** Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn. **[Refrain]**



**\*The Christmas Blessing**

**\*The Congregational Choral Response** #125 Joy to the World (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 na-ture sing,  
and heav'n and na-ture sing,  
and heav'n and heav'n and na-ture sing.**

**\*The Postlude**



*Unto Us A Savior is*