

NIGHT OF SILENCE, DAY OF SONG

CHRISTMAS EVE

Candlelight Service

December 24, 2017 – 11:00 PM

The Prelude:

“I Saw Three Ships”	Richard Elliott
“Pastoral Dance on <i>On Christmas Night All Christians Sing</i> ”	Robin Milford
“Christmas Meditation”	arr. Michael Helman
“A Christmas Prelude for Flute and Organ”	Charles Callahan
“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”	arr. Valerie Stephenson
“Sing We Now of Christmas”	arr. Hart W. Morris
“Good Christians All, Rejoice”	arr. Joseph M. Martin
“I Wonder as I Wander”	arr. Sondra Tucker
“He Is Born, the Divine Christ-Child” (Noel of the Birds)	Jacques Berthier
“The First Noel”	arr. Cathy Moglebust
“Night of Silence” (Silent Night, Holy Night)	Daniel Kantor; arr. John Ferguson

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit:

“Creator of the Stars of Night” Michael Burkhardt

*Creator of the stars of night, your people’s everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call.*

*When this old world drew on toward night, you came, but not in
splendor bright, not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, chosen
mother mild.*

*At your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts
must bow: all things on earth with one accord like those in heaven,
shall call you Lord.*

*To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.
Amen.*

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 80

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” arr. Sir David Willcocks
(Sing stanza 3 in unison)

* The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

THE SILENCE OF GOD

The Reading: Isaiah 64:1-7

The Meditation

The Carol: Worship and Rejoice 196:1,2,4

“In the Bleak Midwinter”
(Sing stanza 4 *a cappella*)

THE SILENCE OF PEOPLE

The Reading: Luke 1:5-20

The Anthem:

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” Walford Davies

*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.*

*How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given! So God
imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may
hear his coming; but in this world of sin, where meek souls will
receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.*

*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; oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord,
Emmanuel!*

The Meditation

The Concertato:

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” arr. John Rutter

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling
stand; ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his
hand, Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to
demand.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord
of lords, in human vesture in the body and the blood, he will give
to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.*

**All: At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless
eye, veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice
they cry, “Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high.”**

SILENT NIGHT

The Reading: Luke 2:1-7

The Anthem:

“Magnificat” Charles Villiers Stanford

*My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in
God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his
handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall
call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and
holy is his name; and his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his
arm, he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their
hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath
exalted the humble and the meek. He hath filled the hungry with
good things and the rich he hath sent empty away. He
remembering his mercy, hath holpen his servant Israel, as he
promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, forever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as
it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without
end, Amen.*

Luke 1:46-55

The Meditation

The Carol: Worship & Rejoice 228

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”
Stanzas 1-2 – all
Stanza 3 – men and boys
Stanza 4 – women and girls
Stanzas 5-6 – all

A MORNING FOR SONG

The Reading: John 1:1-5

The Anthem:

“A Child Is Born in Bethlehem” Philip Stopford

*A child is born in Bethlehem, alleluia. And joy is in Jerusalem,
alleluia. Rejoice, sing high, sing low, alleluia, rejoice, alleluia.
Benedicamus Domino, alleluia. To thee O Lord be glory paid,
alleluia. Thou Son of Mary, mother-maid, alleluia. To holy
Trinity give praise, alleluia, with Deo gracias always, alleluia.*

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The Meditation

*The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 82

“Angels We Have Heard on High”
(Sing stanza 3 in unison)

arr. Larry Visser

The Chiming of the Hour

The Litany for the Christ Candle:

Leader: Our long season of waiting is over. Jesus Christ is born today.

People: O come, let us adore him!

Leader: The Light shines in the darkness,

People: and the darkness has not overcome it.

The Christ Candle is lit in silence.

The Concertato:

“Night of Silence/Silent Night”

Daniel Kantor; arr. John Ferguson

Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this cold endless night. Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, flowers that will echo the sunrise, fire of hope is our only warmth, weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night, on wind you enfold us, you speak of the light. Gentle on the ear, you whisper softly, rumors of a dawn so embracing, breathless love awaits darkened souls, soon will we know of the morning.

Spirit among us, shine like the star, your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar, shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, rising in the warmth of your Son's love, Star unknowing of night and day, Spirit we wait for your loving Son.

All: 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.

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*The Words of Sending

*The Recessional Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 76

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”
(Sing stanzas 3 and 4 in unison)

arr. Sir David Willcocks

*The Postlude:

“Grand Fantasia on *Joy to the World*”

Marc F. Cheban

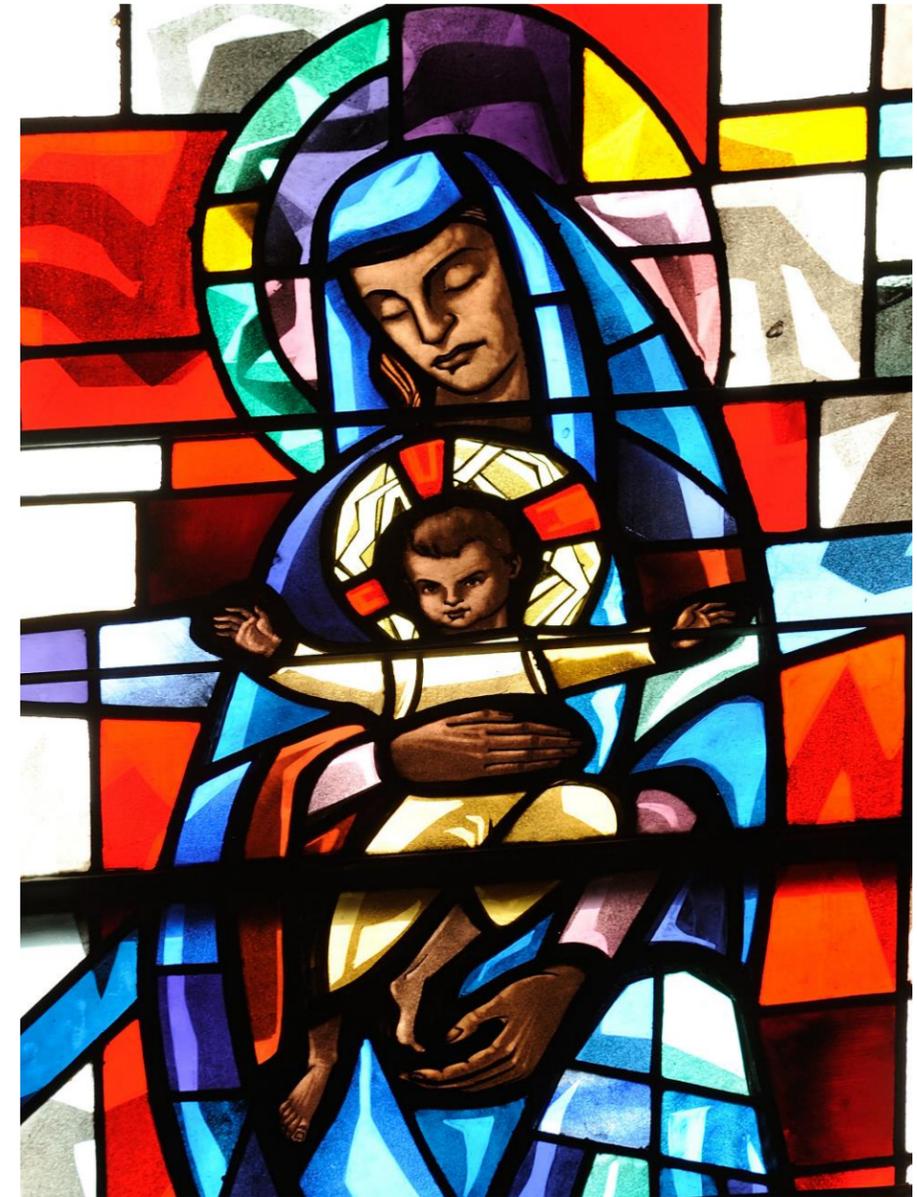
Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Rev. Ruth Boven – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist
Norma deWaal Malefyt – assistant organist
Ruth Bylsma – flutist
Perrin Rynders – percussionist
Bells Jubilate, Kurt Stroh – director
Chancel Choir, Merle Mustert – director
Ben VanHouten – introit soloist
Sher Engbers – Cross Bearer
Judy Otte – Bible Bearer

The flowers on the chancel are in loving memory of **Dr. Martin Bolt** who entered his heavenly home 8 years ago on Christmas Day. They are given by his wife, **Nancy**, and their children and grandchildren.

Your gifts for Bethany Christian Services will be received at the door following the service. Bethany Christian Services is a Christian adoption and family services agency that manifests the love and compassion of Jesus Christ by protecting and enhancing the lives of children and families through quality social services.

Christmas Banners at LaGrave: The primary sanctuary color of Christmas is white, symbolizing the purity and holiness of Jesus. The Christ child born in the manger was truly God and truly man. The only respect in which his humanity differed from you and me is that Jesus was perfect and lived a sinless life. It was that very sinless life that enabled him to take our sins upon himself.

The gold color represents the kingship of Christ. The colors in the banners bring together the First Advent, purple; the birth of Christ, white; and the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent, gold, in the joy and celebration of Christmas. Christ, our King, is born!



*Night of Silence,
Day of Song*

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