

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION



*First Baptist Church
Whiteville, North Carolina
December 24, 2021*

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

December 24, 2021

5:00 p.m.

*Please stand as you are able.

Greeting and Invocation

Dr. Wayne Brown

Prelude

Silent Night

Mrs. Pat Slomanski
arr. Diane Bish

* Carol, No. 89

O Come, All Ye Faithful
(Please see page 5.)

ADESTE FIDELES

The Advent Wreath

Lighting the Christ Candle

Leader: Hope, peace, joy, and love. Four candles, four promises continually offered to us by God, and all of them manifest in one candle tonight.

People: **The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.** (Isaiah 9:2)

Leader: In Christ we find the hope of transformation, the peace that follows justice, the joy of self-fulfillment in community, and the love that encompasses us in all our diversity, empowering us to make our own unique contribution to this world.

People: **Tonight, we light the last candle in the Advent Wreath—the Christ candle. In Christ we find light and life, and the challenge to be like him, answering his call and following in his footsteps.**

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

All: **We rejoice in God's steadfast presence in our lives, and in God's manifesting the peace, love, and justice of God. Come to us, Lord Jesus. Be born in us this night, in our hearts, our minds, and our lives. May the light of your life be kindled in us, and lead us to the shining truth, of God with us, God for us, and God in us. Amen.**

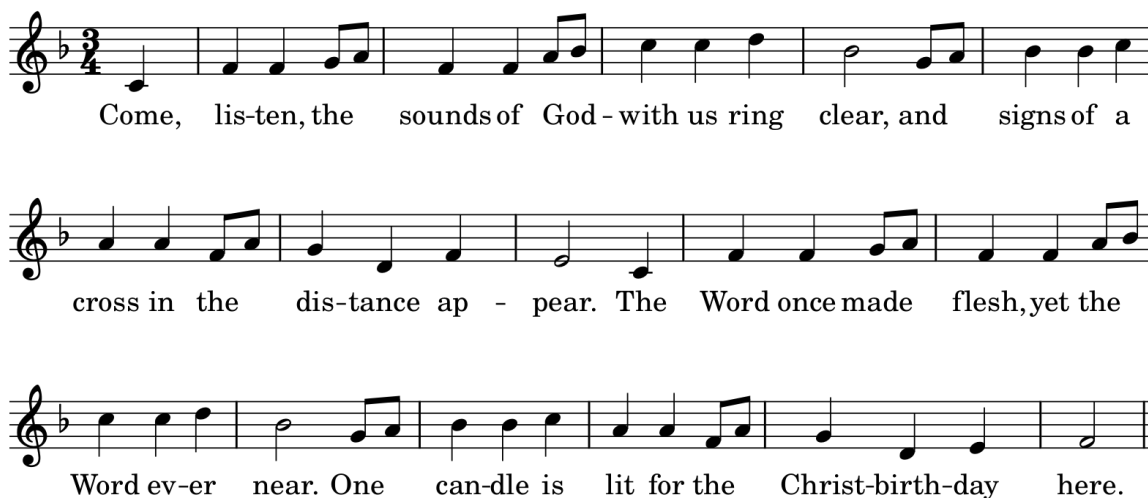
Song Response

One Candle Is Lit
(Please see the next page.)

CRADLE SONG

One Candle Is Lit

Wm. J. Kirkpatrick



Come, lis-ten, the sounds of God - with us ring clear, and signs of a
cross in the dis-tance ap - pear. The Word once made flesh, yet the
Word ev-er near. One can-dle is lit for the Christ-birth-day here.

Solo

Sweet Little Jesus Boy

Rev. Eddie Fort
Robert MacGimsey

The Christmas Story in Scripture and Songs

Jesus' Birth

Scripture
Carol No. 86

Luke 2:1-7
O Little Town of Bethlehem
(Stanzas 1 and 2)
(Please see page 6.)

ST. LOUIS

The Shepherds and Angels

Scripture
Carol No. 100

Luke 2:8-15
Angels We Have Heard on High
(Stanzas 1 and 2)
(Please see page 7.)

GLORIA

Mary, Joseph and the Christ Child

Scripture
Carol No. 101

Luke 2:16-20
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child
(Stanzas 1 and 2)
(Please see page 8.)

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

Prayer

Dr. Brown

Meditation

Victory Over Darkness
Isaiah 9:2

Dr. Brown

Solo

O Holy Night

Bridger Warlick
Adolphe Adam

Communion

The Light of Christ

Carol No. 91

Silent Night, Holy Night
(Please see page 9.)

STILLE NACHT

*** Departing Carol**

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come
(Stanzas 1 and 2)
(Please see page 10.)

ANTIOCH

Depart with joy to serve and share the Good News!

*** Postlude**

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Mrs. Slomanski
arr. Harold DeCou

89

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Sing unto the Lord ... give thanks — Psalm 30:4 KJV

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
 2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, O sing, all ye
 3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, Je - sus, to

come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come and be - hold Him, born the King of
 bright hosts of heav'n a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the
 Thee be all glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap -

an - gels!
 high - est! O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him
 pear - ing!

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

WORDS: Latin hymn; ascribed to John Francis Wade, c. 1710-1786;
 tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880 and others
 MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1710-1786

ADESTE FIDELES
 Irregular

O Little Town of Bethlehem

86

Out of you will come ... one who will be ruler over Israel — Micah 5:2 NIV

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day!

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light;
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth;
No ear may hear His com - ing, But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;

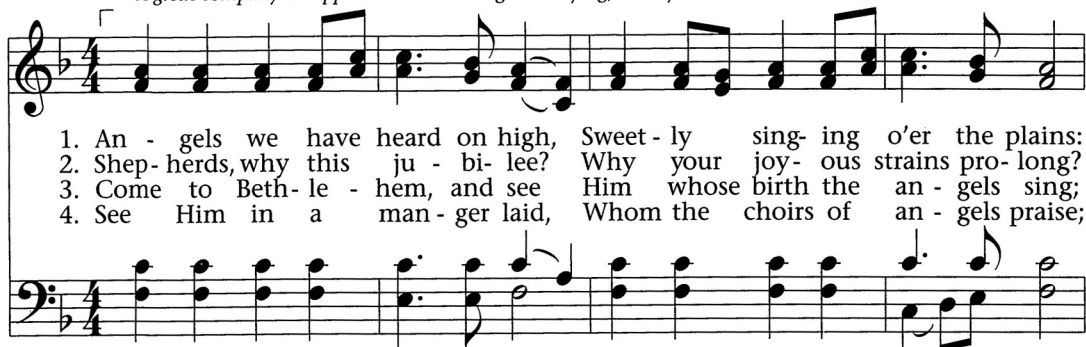
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth!
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

WORDS: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
MUSIC: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

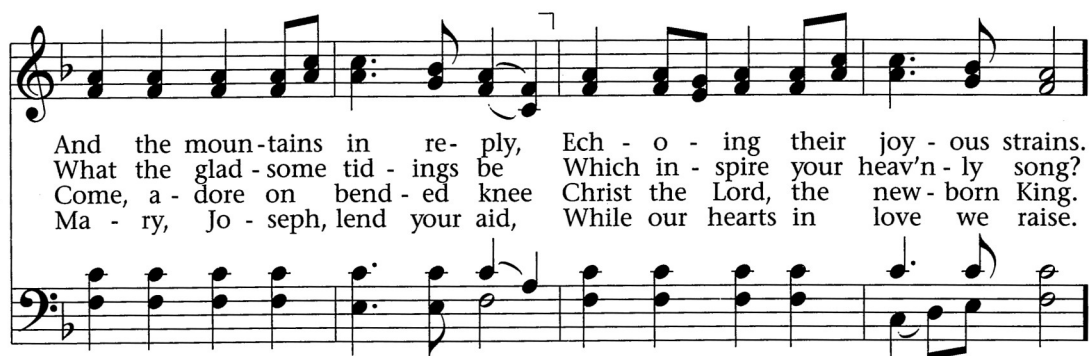
ST. LOUIS
Irregular

Angels We Have Heard on High 100

A great company ... appeared with the angel ... saying, "Glory to God" — Luke 2:13-14 NIV



1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains:
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem, and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4. See Him in a man - ger laid, Whom the choirs of an - gels praise;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.



Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

WORDS: Traditional French Carol; tr. source unknown, 1862, alt.
 MUSIC: Traditional French Carol; arr. Warren M. Angell, 1907-

GLORIA
 7.7.7.7. with Refrain

101

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

She ... placed him in a manger — Luke 2:7 NIV

1. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger;
 2. An - gels sang a - bout His birth; Wise men sought and found Him;
 3. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger;

There He lay, the un - de - filed, To the world a stran - ger:
 Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, Glo - ry all a - round Him:
 He is still the un - de - filed, But no more a stran - ger:

Such a Babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
 Son of God, of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;

Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
 All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
 Praise His name in all the earth, Hail the King of glo - ry!

WORDS: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859-1933

MUSIC: A Spring Carol, c. 14th Century; arr. Ernest MacMillan, 1893-

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

7.6.7.6.D.

91

Silent Night, Holy Night

She gave birth to ... a son — Luke 2:7 NIV

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm, all is bright Round yon
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Dark - ness flies, all is light; Shep - herds
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Won - drous star, lend thy light; With the

vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,
 hear the an - gels sing, "Al - le - lu - ia! hail the King!
 beams from Thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

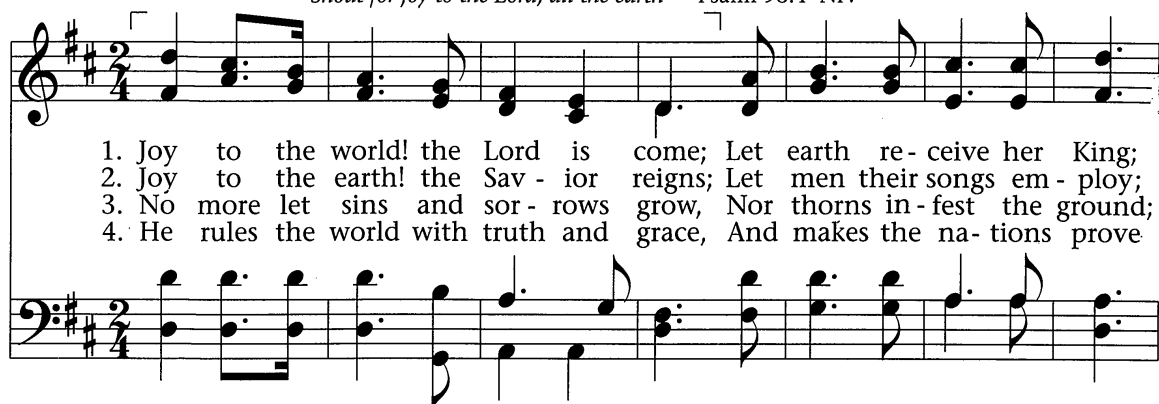
Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born."
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; tr. st. 1,3, John Freeman Young, 1820-1885;
 tr. st. 2,4, Anonymous
 MUSIC: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863

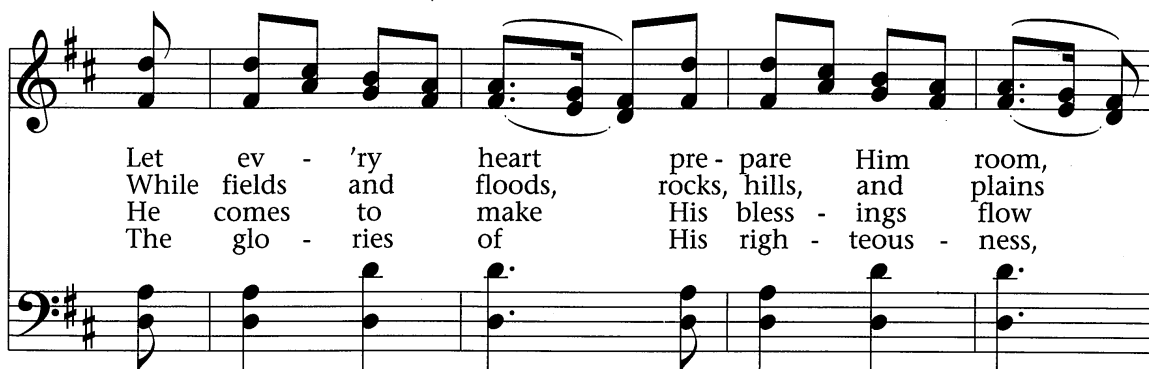
STILLE NACHT
 Irregular

87 Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth — Psalm 98:4 NIV



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re-ceive her King;
 2. Joy to the earth! the Sav-ior reigns; Let men their songs em-ploy;
 3. No more let sins and sor-rows grow, Nor thorns in-fest the ground;
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na-tions prove



Let ev-'ry heart pre-pare Him room,
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 He comes to make His bless-ings flow
 The glo-ries of His righ-teous-ness,



And heav'n and na-ture sing, And heav'n and na-ture
 Re-peat the sound-ing joy, Re-peat the sound-ing
 Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 And won-ders of His love, And won-ders of His

1. And heav'n and na-ture sing, And



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na-ture sing.
 joy, Re-peat, re-peat the sound-ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won-ders, won-ders of His love.

heav'n and na-ture sing,

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

MUSIC: George Frederick Handel, 1685-1759; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

ANTIOCH
Irregular

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 26

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

Monday, December 27

Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

Monday, January 3

Office Closed for New Year's Day



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Wayne Brown, Interim Pastor
Rev. Eddie Fort, Minister of Music

Ministry Assistant Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant
Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant
Mrs. Pat Slomanski, Organist

Church Office Hours 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Monday—Thursday

Phone: (910) 642-2139 Fax: (910) 642-5874

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CCLI #1445259