

December 24, 2022; 7 pm  
Christmas Eve

## **We Gather Together**

**Gathering Music:** PH 38 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” vs. 1 & 2  
PH 22 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” vs. 1 & 4  
PH 28 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” vs. 1 & 3  
PH 31 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” vs. 1 & 3

*(Welcome to our Service of Worship. Whether you are with us in person, joining us live on zoom or watching several days from now, we are glad you are here. We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Please use the time before worship to fill in the Friendship Pad in your pew. **Masking (N-95 preferred) and social distancing are not required but are respected and encouraged. Please consider your own health and the health of those around you.**)*

### **Welcome & Announcements**

### **Ringing of the Bell and entrance of the Light of Christ**

#### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

*Sabel Family*

Our Savior, you give sight to the blind and set the prisoners free. Release us from our captivity and show us new life with you.

**Come, and set us free into everlasting life with you.**

You are the true God, who spoke light into darkness, and saw that it was good. Bring light into our darkened lives.

**Come, and shine Your light on us.**

O Jesus, you are the Redeemer of all people, your creation. By your Spirit, help us to find peace and unity from our divided hearts and lands.

**Come, and deliver us whom you created and love.**

Tonight, we celebrate your birth that unleashes hope, love, peace, and joy into the world from now until the day of your return.

**Come Christ the Lord.**

**Hymn PH 44** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (vs. 1)

**Prayer (Psalm 96, Isaiah 9, Titus 2)**

Holy One,  
you have appeared in the flesh,  
bringing redemption to all,  
**your glory is made known in this newborn child,  
this living, blessed hope.**

Tonight we sing a new song—  
a song of justice, righteousness, and endless peace.

**Gift of God, beautiful Christ-child,  
we welcome you!**

Let love be born anew in our hearts  
on this joyous night. **Amen.**

**Handbells:** “O Come All Ye Faithful”

**\*Hymn GTG 133** “O Come All Ye Faithful”

**\*Call to Confession**

*Byron Sabel*

God came into a broken world, and we know all too well the ways it is still broken and hurting. Let us confess the state of the world, and the state of our souls.

**\*Confession GTG 430** “Remember Not, O God”

*Silent Confession*

*(In the silence of our hearts we confess our sins to God.)*

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to us all! With Christ’s birth comes forgiveness and redemption. Glory to God in the highest heaven, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**Glory to God in the highest heaven, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Amen!**

**\*Sharing God’s Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with! **And also, with you!**

*(Please share the Peace of Christ with those around you using the ancient formula 'The Peace of Christ.' 'And also, with you.' Please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands or be too close. **We encourage you to use this time to send a text or emoji to someone who cannot be here.**)*

**\*Hymn GTG 113** "Angels We Have Heard on High" vs. 1

## **God's Word Is Proclaimed**

**OT Lesson** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

**NT Lesson** Luke 2:1-20 KJV

**\*Hymn GTG 673** "Jesus, Light of Joy"

**Sermon** "We Can See Clearly Now"

**Handbell Piece** "Joy to the World"

*Handbell Choir*

## **We Respond to God's Word**

**Prayers of the People**

**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.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned 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.**

**Amen.**

**Offering** "Angels We Have Heard On High with Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

*arranged by Bernadine Johnson*

*Kristina Arellano, pianist*

**\*Offertory GTG 145** "What Child is This" vs. 3

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**\*We Spread the Light of Christ**

**\*Hymn GTG 122 “Silent Night”**

Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!  
**Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!**

*(Please extinguish your candles)*

**\*Hymn PH 40 “Joy to the World!”**

\*Charge and Benediction  
Let all God’s people say,  
**Alleluia, Amen!**

**\*Hymn PH 29 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”**

**Postlude “Go Tell It”**

*arr. by Aaron David Miller*

### **The Work of Christmas**

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
    To find the lost,  
    To heal the broken,  
    To feed the hungry,  
    To release the prisoner,  
    To rebuild the nations,  
    To bring peace among others,  
    To make music in the heart.