



How does a  
weary world  
rejoice? *We make  
room*

*With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones,  
where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God's love  
by word and deed to all people.*

*Based on 1 Peter 2:5, 6*

# The Worship of God

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023

## Carol Sing

#262 "Away in a Manger"  
#281 "What Child Is This?"  
#279 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"  
#258 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"  
#278 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

## Prelude

"Hush, Bambino"  
Pam Weis

by Roger Summers

## Welcome

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

## Call to Worship

Christian McIvor

One: There is room for you here.  
If you're weary and worn,  
or hopeful and patient.

**All: If you're tired and lost,  
or wrapped up in hope.**

One: If you're new to this place,  
or have been here before.

**All: Come in, come in.  
There is room for you here.**

One: The angels are singing.

**All: "Be not afraid."**

One: The angels are singing.

**All: "Good news and great joy!"**

One: So come in, come in!

**All: There is room for us here.**

One: How does a weary world rejoice?  
How do we give peace and love a voice?  
How do we find joy in suffering?  
In grateful hope, together we will sing.

✠ *Please rise in body or spirit.*

**First Lesson**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Sumner Eshleman

**† Carol 249**

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold Him— born the King of angels!**

**Refrain:**

**O Come, let us adore Him! O come, let us adore Him!  
O come, let us adore Him— Christ, the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav’n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)**

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n:  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)**

**Children’s Sermon**

April Alston

**Second Lesson**

Luke 1:26-38

**† Carol 277**

**“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”**

**Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

**Refrain:**

**Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”**

**Christ by highest heav’n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th’incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. (Refrain)**

**Hail, the heav’nborn Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that men no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. (Refrain)**

## Call to the Offering

Jerry Chiles

### Offertory

"To Thee My Heart | Offer"  
GBC Choir

by Elaine Hagenberg

### Third Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Joanne Thompson

### Carol

"Still, Still, Still"  
GBC Choir

Austrian Carol arr. Norman Luboff

### Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

Sebastian Heredia

### Homily

*"We make room"*

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

### Musical Reflection

"O Holy Night"  
Christian Mclvor, Pam Weis

Words by Placide Chapeau,  
adapt. John Dwight,  
Music by Adolphe Adam

### Pastoral Prayer

Anna Beth Cross

### Communion

"Mary, Did You Know?"

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

arr. by Mark Hayes

### Fifth Lesson

John 1:1-14

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

### ✠ Carol 253

"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

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.

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!

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light.  
With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King.  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

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.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n and nature sing,  
And heav’n and heav’n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Thank you to Cranberry Tree Farms for their gracious donation of wreaths  
and for the beautiful Chrismon trees in the Sanctuary.

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