

# A Candlelight Service

of Six Lessons and Six Carols

on Christmas Eve 2023

## Prelude

*But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.*  
Habakkuk 2:20

## Welcome

### Choir Introit

*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 descending comes our homage to demand. King of kings born of Mary, as of old 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, descending from the realms of endless day, comes the powers of hell to vanquish, as the darkness clears away. At His feet the sixwinged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry: "Alleluia! Lord Most High!"*

### † Call to Worship

Isaiah 9:2-7

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

**People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Pastor: Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

**People: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.**

### † Hymn of Adoration

# 208 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

### † Prayer of Adoration

#### The First Lesson and Carol

Genesis 3:1–15

# 193 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent* (1-3)

#### The Second Lesson and Carol

Isaiah 7:10-14, 9:6-7, 11:1-2

# 194 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (1, 5)

#### The Third Lesson and Carol

Luke 1:46–56 *The Magnificat*

† # 213 *What Child is This*

## Choir

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem has sprung. Of Jesse's lineage coming as prophets long have sung. It came floweret bright when half spent was the night. With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind, to show God's love aright. She bore to us a savior, when half spent was the night. This flower whose fragrance tender fills the air with sweetness, dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. True man yet very God, He saves us and lightens every load.*

### The Fourth Lesson and Carol

Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:1-7

# 217 *All My Heart This Night Rejoices* (1-5)

## Choir

*Beside Thy manger here I stand, dear Jesus, Lord and Savior, a gift of love within my hand to thank Thee for Thy favor. Oh, take my humble offering, my heart, my soul, year, everything is Thine to keep forever.*

### The Fifth Lesson and Carol

Luke 2:8-16, Matthew 2:1-11

# 203 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

### The Sixth Lesson and Carol

#### Lighting of the Christ Candle

Russell Family (5:00 p.m.), Pent Family (7:00 p.m.)

John 1:1-14

† # 195 *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come*

#### Christmas Meditation from God's Word

 Pastor Tony Felich

#### The Lighting of the Candles

*Silent Night! Holy Night!* (words printed)

### † Closing Prayer and Benediction

## Postlude

## Silent Night! Holy Night! By Joseph Mohr

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.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heav'n afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia,  
Christ, the Saviour, 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.

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!

† Indicates the congregation standing