



 HOPE CHURCH

SIMPLE CHRISTMAS

Eve

Hope Church of Lincoln Park

December 24, 2023

6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Prelude

CHRISTMAS EVE – CHRIST CANDLE

Kelsey, Kate & Camryn Weidmann

[After lighting the Christ candle]

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
We light this candle because Jesus,
the light of the world, is born tomorrow,
and he brightens all things!

Reading #1 – *Jeanmarie Kozan*

Isaiah 40:1-5 English Standard Version (ESV)

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

VERSE 1

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray;

*REFRAIN: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

VERSE 2

From God our heav'nly Father,
a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born
the son of God by name,

VERSE 3

"Fear not, then," said the angel,
"let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior
of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him
from Satan's pow'r and might."

VERSE 4

The shepherds at those tidings
rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding,
in tempest, storm, and wind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway,
the Son of God to find.

Public Domain.
English carol, 18th cent.
Tune: GOD REST YOU MERRY
Little Book of Christmas Carols, ca. 1850 (melody)

READING #2 – *Logan Przestrzelski*

Isaiah 9:6-7 English Standard Version (ESV)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VERSE 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

REFRAIN

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

VERSE 2

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

VERSE 3

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go.

VERSE 4

O come Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Public Domain.

Translator: J. M. Neale (1851)

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL (Chant)

Composer: Anonymous; Adapter: Thom-as Hel-more
French processional, 15th cent.

READING #3 – *Linda Finelli*

Matthew 1:18-25 English Standard Version (ESV)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

VERSE 1

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."*

VERSE 2

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.

VERSE 3

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Son 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.

Public Domain.

Alterer: George Whitefield; Author: Charles Wesley (1739)

Tune: MENDELSSOHN (51171)

Composer: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1840)

READING #4 – *Craig Kozan*

Luke 2:1-7 English Standard Version (ESV)

Away in a Manger

VERSE 1

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay;
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

VERSE 2

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus - no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

VERSE 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Public Domain.

Author (attributed to): Martin Luther; Author (st. 1-2):

Anonymous (1885); Author (v. 3, attr.): John T. McFarland (1892)

Tune: MUELLER (Murray)

Composer: James R. Murray (1887)

READING #5 – *Steve Weidmann*

Luke 2:8-20 English Standard Version (ESV)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offering

Make Room

Denise & Diane Marsh

Meditation

“Simple Christmas”

Pastor Tim McHugh

Prayer of Application

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

1. Be very careful with children.
2. Keep lit candles upright at all times.
3. Tilt unlit candles toward lit candles.
4. As you leave, place the used candles in the boxes at the doors.

***Silent Night! Holy Night!**

VERSE 1

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.

VERSE 2

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!"

VERSE 3

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!

VERSE 4

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."

Public Domain.

Translator (Sts. 1, 3): J. Freeman Young; Translator (sts. 2, 4): Anonymous;
Author: Joseph Mohr Tune: STILLE NACHT Composer : Franz Xaver Gruber (1818)

Please Extinguish Candles

Joy to the World!

VERSE 1

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry 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.

VERSE 2

Joy to the earth! 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.

VERSE 3

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

VERSE 4

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.

Public Domain.
Author: Isaac Watts (1719)
Tune: ANTIOCH (Handel)
Adapter: Lowell Mason; Composer: George Frideric Handel

* Benediction

*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

CCLI Song # 56204 CCLI License # 83019

*Please place extinguished candles
in the metal container as you leave*

Please join us for cookies and punch after the service



The flowers this evening are in
memory of
Judie Ackerman's mom,
Phyllis Zoda who died Christmas Day,
1999

From Judie, Dan, Karlie & Phyllicia

*Thank
You*

*to all those who helped make our
Christmas Eve Service special.*

Our Readers: Jeanmarie Kozan, Logan Przestrzelski, Linda Finelli, Craig Kozan, and Steve Weidmann

Organist: Bev Cusack

Music: Worship Team & Choir

Judy Koldyk for her artistic creativity decorating the altar

Our ushers: Betty Donka, Travis Donka, Chase & Courtney Przestrzelski, Linda Finelli & Frank Cappetta

Please keep our military, our first responders, those who have lost loved ones this year, and those who are ill in your prayers this Christmas.





A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

Hope Church of Lincoln Park

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STAFF

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COUNCIL

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Treasurer

Dave Baker 973-703-7747

WORSHIP TIMES

Services: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Kids Church 10:15 AM downstairs with Jeanmarie Kozan

High School 9:00 AM with Dave baker

Nursery Care at 10 AM

www.frc-lpnj.org

[Venmo @HopeChurchofLP](#)

