# **GATHERING**

PRELUDE "Sleeping Beauty Waltz" by P. Tchaikovsky

"II. Gavotte" and "IV. Waltz" from Five Pieces for Violin and Piano by D. Shostakovich & L. Atovmyan

CHIMING OF THE BELL

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

INTROIT Variations on "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Luyang Liu

LIGHTING THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We have prepared and watched.

We have waited in hope, for peace, in joy, with love.

All: And now we rejoice that our Savior is come.

One: On this holiest of nights,

All: we come, joining shepherds who are stunned by wonder.

One: On this most silent night,

All: we come, our dreams joining those of Mary and Joseph.

One: On this nights of carols and candlelight,

All: we come, our glad songs joining with the choirs of angels.

One: Come, let us worship;

come, let us adore him: Christ the Lord!

\* OPENING HYMN #41 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

BIDDING PRAYER OF CHRISTMAS

#### 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; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

# THE CHRISTMAS STORY:

**HOLY WORD & SACRED SONG** 

The Savior of the World is Promised to Us from Isaiah 9

"I. Allegretto scherzando" from Bagatelles, Op. 47 by A. Dvořák

An Angel Appears to Mary: Luke 1, 26-35, 38

"Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion" from Messiah by G. F. Handel

The Birth of Jesus: Luke 2:1-7

HYMN #25 "Away in a Manger" verse 1

The Shepherds and the Angels: Luke 2:8-20

"He Shall Lead His Flock Like a Shepherd" from Messiah by G. F. Handel

The Wise Men: Matthew 2:1-12

"III. Scherzo" from Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor by F. Mendelssohn

**The Word of God:** John 1:1-5 & 10-14

\* HYMN #40 "Joy to the World!" verses 1, 2 & 4

SERMON "Minding Your Business" by the Rev. Scott Hauser

Rev. Dr. Stacy C. Smith

## **RESPONSE**

OFFERTORY "O Holy Night"

Liz Smith

#### PRAYER OF THE "O ANTIPHONS"

These seven prayers—the Great Antiphons, or O Antiphons—were collected in Rome in the eighth century.

### **SENDING**

\* CLOSING HYMN #60 "Silent Night, Holy Night" verses 1, 3 & 4

The pastor will share the light of the Christ candle with the congregation, and as you receive the light you are invited to share it with your neighbor. When sharing the light, please tilt the unlit candle towards the lit candle.

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Badinerie" by J. S. Bach

Luyang Liu

\* indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit

## With gratitude to our musicians for tonight's service:

Elizabeth Melody Smith, soprano
Hao Yuan, violin
Conan Chang, violin
Shuyi, cello
Luyang Liu, music director & pianist/organist



**DECEMBER 24, 2025** 



Service of Worship for Christmas Eve

