

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Fanfare: "Christmas Majesty" (Sandra Eithun)

Prelude: "Coventry Carol" (16th Century English Carol, arr. Noel A. Piercy)

Welcome and Opening Sentences

Opening Prayer

Carol 100: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Anthem: "The Rose Tree Carol" (from The Winter Rose) (Joseph M. Martin)

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!'

Solo: "The Winter Rose" (Reprise) (from The Winter Rose) (Joseph M. Martin)

Scripture Reading: Psalm 96

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. Say among the nations, 'The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity.' Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

Anthem: "Look to the Rose" (from The Winter Rose) (Joseph M. Martin)

Compassionate Giving

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Anthem: "Lo, How a Rose" (from The Winter Rose) (Joseph M. Martin)

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Carol 107: "Joy to the World"

Meditation: "A BABY STORY"

Duet: "Coventry Carol" (16th Century English Carol, arr. Mark Hayes and Marvin Gaspard)

Benediction

Benediction Response 466: "This Little Light of Mine"

Verse 1 (hold candles): This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (*3 times*). Let it shine (*3 times*).

Verse 2 (hold candles): Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. . .

Verse 3 (wave candles): Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine. . .

Verse 4 (wave candles): Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine. . .

Verse 5 (hold candles high): All in my home, I'm gonna let it shine. . .

Greet One Another

Participants: Rev. Art Ritter, DeeAnn McCormick, Barb and Jerry Fuller, Margery Briggs, Michael Judd, Jen Hall and Steven Parker, Marsha Hacker, Justin Stephens, Jamie Keller, the Chancel Choir, the Mayflower Ringers

The Christmas Eve collection will be given to South Lansing Ministries. The need for personal needs and food assistance is particularly great right now. Thanks for your support of this most worthy charity! Donations may be made until December 31.

2023 pledges/contributions may be placed in the collection on Christmas Eve, but please clearly designate the amount for each. Also, next Sunday, December 31, is the last date for contributions and donations for calendar year 2023.

If you reserved a poinsettia but are not attending the Christmas Eve Service, please arrange with Lorraine to pick it up soon. If you would like it to be delivered to you or to a shut-in, please let her know as soon as possible.

POINSETTIAS 2023

Bill and Sue Baldwin	In memory of her parents, Robert and Jean McKinnon, and his parents and brother, William, Barbara, and Stephen Baldwin
Glenn and Carol Dunn	In memory of his parents, Ken and Ralph Dunn, and her parents, Bob and Elizabeth Kay
Ron and Kathy Farnum	In honor of their children and grandchildren--daughter Kristin Caverly, and Reid, Layla, and Bennett; and son Adam Farnum and wife Beth, and Mia Grace and Wyatt
Ron and Kathy Farnum	In memory of his parents, Billie and Maxine Farnum, and her parents, Bill and Shirley Denton
Kim and Lorraine Finison	In memory of her parents, Angelo and Gwendolyn Vassallo
Kim and Lorraine Finison	In memory of his parents, Joe L. and Velma Finison
Lorraine Finison	In memory of my "Other Mother," Doris Graham
Jan Fleck	In memory of her sister, Linda Freier
Maryanna Foster	In memory of family members
Jerry and Barb Fuller	In deep appreciation for family and friends
Terry and Sharon Graham	In memory of Doris, our mom, grandma, great grandma
Bob Gress, Darleen Wirt, Bob Z	In memory of Bob Pearson
Bob Gress, Darleen Wirt, Bob Z	In memory of Bob G's wife, Patricia
Bob Gress, Darleen Wirt, Bob Z	In memory of Bob G's and Darleen's mother, Lelah Gress-Smith
Bob Gress, Darleen Wirt, Bob Z	In memory of Bob G's and Darleen's grandparents, Rev. George and Pearle Hall
Bob Gress, Darleen Wirt, Bob Z	In memory of their friend, John Rolfe
Bob Gress, Darleen Wirt, Bob Z	In memory of their cousin, John Dashner
Tom and Marsha Hacker	In memory of his parents, Ted and Jo Hacker, and her parents, Marvin and Ruth Shanks
Jennifer Hall	In memory of her father, Lloyd Hall, Jr., and her grandparents, Lloyd, Sr., and Sara Hall and Martin and Kathryn Wing
Roger and Meredith Kennedy	In memory of loved ones
Stephanie Kittleson	In memory of her husband, Kyle
Stephanie Kittleson	In memory of her mother, Evangeline Ortino
Stephanie Kittleson	In memory of her father, Leonard Ortino
Susan Kohler	In memory of her dear Aunt Jean, her parents, and friends and family
Marian Korroch	In memory of her husband, Erwin
Marian Korroch	In memory of her parents, Harlan and Mildred Reason
Marian Korroch	In memory of her grandparents, Ernest and MaryEtta Hunt
Bruce and Wendy Kushion	In honor of their sons, their wives, and grandchildren: Steven and Jenni Kushion and Ava and Addie; and Brian and Lauren Kushion and Leah and Owen
Mark and DeeAnn McCormick	In memory of her parents, Loyal and Arlene Dean
Mark and DeeAnn McCormick	In memory of his parents, Rev. Everett and Loverna McCormick
Nancy McKay	In memory of her husband, Dick, and their parents, Norman and Ila McKay and Russell and Leone Parish
Beverly Miller	In memory of her husband, Fred
Arlene Moore	In memory of her husband, Jimmy
Dr. Bob and Judy Posey	In memory of his parents, Robert and Frieda Posey, and his sister, Sharon Paul
Dr. Bob and Judy Posey	In memory of her parents, Edgar and Damaras Rogers
Eugene and Shirley Potts	In memory of his brother, James Potts
Eugene and Shirley Potts	In memory of loved ones
Mary Robison	In memory of her dear Norm, who died 9 years ago December 19
Mary Robison	In memory of family members
Richard and Charlotte Shoup	In memory of his parents, Lawrence and Blanche Shoup, and her parents, Robert and Ruth Nave
Justin Stephens and Jamie Keller	In honor of his grandma, Sharon Stephens
Justin Stephens and Jamie Keller	In memory of his grandma, Colleen Beach
Terry and Gwen Tisdale	In honor of Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick
Frank and Linda Wheeler	In memory of his parents, Delores and Glen Pettis, and her parents, Ruth and Raymond Keller
Gordon Wilson and Deenie Leshner	In memory of his mother, Doreen Brown
Gordon Wilson and Deenie Leshner	In memory of her mother, Jean Johnson
Susan Yaeger and family	In memory of her parents, Dan and Blanche Samohovetz

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Latin by John F. Wade, 1711–1786

John F. Wade's, *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

Trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, and others

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2. ♪ Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, ♪
 3. ♪ Child for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger, ♪
 4. ♪ Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, ♪

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!
 We would em - brace Thee, with love and awe;
 Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
 Who would not love Thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ, the Lord!

The image shows a musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of D major (one sharp). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Adeste Fideles

101

John F. Wade, 1711–1786

1. Adeste fideles,
 Laeti triumphantes,
 Venite, venite in Bethlehem:
 Natum videte
 Regem angelorum:
 Venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,
 Venite, adoremus Dominum.
2. Cantet nunc iohannes
 Chorus angelorum,
 Cantet nunc aula caelestium:
 Gloria in
 Excelsis Deo:
 Venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,
 Venite, adoremus Dominum.
3. Ergo qui natus
 Die hodierna,
 Jesu, tibi sit gloria:
 Patris aeterni
 Verbum caro factum:
 Venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,
 Venite, adoremus Dominum.

Joy to the World

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Attr. to George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re-
 2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their
 3. No more let sin and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks,
 fest the ground; He comes to make His
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of His

pare Him room, And heav'n and na - ture
 hills, and plains Re - peat the sound - ing
 bless - ings flow Far as the curse is
 right - eous - ness, And won - ders of His

And
Re -
Far
And

Second verse: "Let all their songs employ"

THE TRIUNE GOD

sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
 joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 found, Far as the curse is found, Far
 love, And won - ders of His love, And

heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His

heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of His love. A - men.

sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders of His love. A - men.

O Lord Christ, born into our world this day:
 Bring joy to our hearts,
 that we would make room for Your grace.
 Place Your song on our lips,
 that we would proclaim good news for all to hear.
 Give clear vision to our eyes,
 that we would see Your blessings flow all around us.
 Create peace among all nations,
 that we would dwell in harmony as brothers and sisters.
 Grant hope to our souls,
 that we would experience Your kingdom in our lives.
 We receive You now,
 who comes to us as purest love, in awe and wonder.
 Amen.

This Little Light of Mine

Matthew 5:14-16
Spiritual

Spiritual
Arr. by Nolan E. Williams, Jr., b.1969-

G C/G G D7 G

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.
3. Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh

C G

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh

C/G G B Em

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh

C G/D Em7 A G/D D7 G C/G G

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

4. Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine....
5. All in my home, I'm gonna let it shine....