

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday, December 24, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

Prelude: "Glad Tidings" (Welsh Carol)

Text: Glad tidings, now let all proclaim. This day shall men and angels sing, this day shall men and angels sing. Messiah now has come to reign. Let's make redemption's chorus ring. Let's make redemption's chorus ring. Hark, hark, hark, hark, hark, hark! New harps are strung in heav'n. New harps are strung in heav'n. New songs are heard this happy morn. Our ransom's paid and man's forgiven. Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah, Christ is born. Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah. Sing hallelujah, Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born. Sing hallelujah, Christ is born.

Greeting and Welcome

Opening Prayer (in unison)

God of quiet beginnings, You entered our world not through power or privilege, but through vulnerability and trust. You came into a world shaped by decrees and demands, by burdens placed on the weary and the poor. Come now into our midst. As we gather on this holy night, help us make room for your presence—in our hearts, in our lives, and in our world. Meet us where we are, especially when we feel displaced, tired, or unseen, and kindle in us the light of hope, that we may receive the Christ you send. Amen.

Carol 100: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Old Testament 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.

Anthem: "The Star" (Welsh Carol)

Text: Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king. Behold there came wise men from the East, to Jerusalem. Behold there came wise men from the East, to Jerusalem. Saying where is he that is born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east. For we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him. And are come to worship him. When they saw the star, when they saw the star, when they saw the star, they rejoiced, rejoiced, rejoiced, rejoiced, rejoiced, rejoiced with exceeding great, great joy. With exceeding great, great joy.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Carol 123: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Compassionate Giving

Offertory: "O Holy Night" (Adolphe Adam, arr. Cindy Berry)

(OVER)

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-7

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.

Handbell Anthem: "Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow" (Spiritual, arr. Larry Sue)

Text: 1) There's a star in the East on Christmas morn; rise up, shepherd, and follow; it will lead to the place where the Christ was born; rise up, shepherd, and follow. *Refrain:* *Follow, follow; rise up, shepherd, and follow.* *Follow the Star of Bethlehem; rise up, shepherd, and follow.* Leave your sheep, leave your sheep, and leave your lambs; rise up, shepherd, and follow; leave your ewes and your rams, leave your ewes and rams; rise up, shepherd, and follow. *[Refrain]* If you take good heed to the angel's words; rise up, shepherd, and follow; you'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds; rise up, shepherd, and follow. *[Refrain]*

Meditation: "EXPOSING THE EMPIRE"

Carol 135: "Silent Night"

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Anthem: "Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child" (Robert Croo, English Melody)

(Text may be found at Hymn 141 in the hymnal)

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: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Pastor Margery Briggs,
Pastor Rachel Gehres, Ruth Pasch, Jamie Keller, Chancel Choir, Mayflower Ringers

POINSETTIAS 2025

Bill and Sue Baldwin	In memory of her parents, Robert and Jean McKinnon, and his parents and brother, William, Barbara, and Stephen Baldwin
Margery Briggs and Michael Judd	In memory of her son, Andrew Bosworth, and her nephew, Gerald Irish
Tom and Marcia Cornell	In memory of his parents, George and Marion Cornell, and her parents, Harold and Eloise Richards
Tom and Marcia Cornell	In honor of their daughter Emily and son Scott and their families
Tom and Marcia Cornell	In memory of her best friend, Donna Graham, and their "second Mom" and family friend, Betty Dunn
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 Stan Freburg, Judy McQueen, Bev Miller, Susan Schweinfurth, Dick Williams, Betty Dunn
Jan Fleck	In honor of Ina Martin's 100th birthday
Maryanna Foster	In memory of those who have gone before us
Jerry and Barb Fuller	In deep appreciation for family and friends
Steve Gmazel	In memory of his wife and partner, Sandra, who will always be the better half of him
Steve Gmazel	In memory of his mother, Mabel, with thanks for her continuous efforts in raising six children
Steve Gmazel	In memory of his sister, Kristine Kramp, his butterfly, with thanks for making her siblings better people
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
Bob Gress, Darleen Wirt, Bob Z	In memory of their cousin, Sharon 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
Daun Ketcheson	In memory of her husband, Roy, and her sister, Norma Donovan Chamberlin
Sue Kohler	In thanksgiving for God's abundant blessings, especially family and friends
Marian Korroch	In memory of her husband, Erwin
Marian Korroch	In honor of her sons, Tom, Bob, Dave, and Jim
Marian Korroch	In memory of her parents, Harlan and Mildred Reason, and her grandparents, Ernest and MaryEtta Hunt
Larry and Louise Koster	In memory of his parents, Larry and Louise Koster
Larry and Louise Koster	In memory of her parents, Harold and Helen Rutila
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
Arlene Moore	In memory of her husband, Jimmy
Dr. Bob and Judy Posey	In memory of his parents, Robert and Frieda Posey, and her parents, Edgar and Damaras Rogers
Eugene and Shirley Potts	In memory of his mother and brother, Marion Potts and James Potts
Eugene and Shirley Potts	In memory of her family, Mary Lou, Larry, and Lawrence Mitchell
Justin Stephens and Jamie Keller	In honor of his grandma, Sharon Stephens
Justin Stephens and Jamie Keller	In memory of his grandma, Colleen Beach
Marty Taylor	In memory of her husband, Michael
Marty Taylor	In memory of her parents, Frances and Clifton Chappell
Frank and Linda Wheeler	In memory of his parents, Delores and Glen Pettis, and her parents, Ruth and Raymond Keller
Susan Yaeger and family	In memory of her parents, Dan and Blanche Samohovetz

THE TRIUNE GOD

100

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Latin by John F. Wade, 1711-1786

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

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

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!

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 io
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.

THE TRIUNE GOD

123

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847

Arr. by William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ the ev - er -
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of

new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild,
 last - ing Lord: Late in time be - hold Him come,
 right-eous-ness! Light and life to all He brings,

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all ye
 Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the
 Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings. Mild He lays His

na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 God - head see: Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

MENDELSSOHN

7.7.7.7 D

Second verse: "Pleased as man with us to dwell"

Third verse: "Born that we no more may die" and

"Born to raise all those on earth" or "Born to raise all children on earth"

THE TRIUNE GOD



With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!" A-men.



Org. Ped.

Christ Child, God Incarnate,
Your glory shall shine forever and ever.
You came that we, whom You created,
would be reconciled to You and made whole.
You came that we might have eternity in Your presence
and may always live in Your love.
With joyful hearts, we sing glory to Your name.

Rev. Wayne McLeod

THE TRIUNE GOD

135

Silent Night, Holy Night

Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848

Trans. by John F. Young, 1820–1885

Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm,
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shep-herds quake
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright Round yon Vir - gin Moth - er and Child,
 at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
 Heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy

peace, born! Sleep in heavenly peace.
 Christ, the Savior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

STILLE NACHT
Irregular

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.
 oh

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