

# CHRISTMAS EVE

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## Prelude Music

## Chiming of the Hour

## Hebrew Scriptures

## Carol

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*, Latin hymn

David Labman, piano & vocals

**O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels;**

**Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord,**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
“Glory to God, all glory in the highest”; [Refrain]**

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## Welcome Home

## Lighting the Christ Candle

One: ... While we've been trying to get to the light,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: On warm and cozy couches,

In living rooms adorned to our liking,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: Over the internet on Zoom,

With its foibles, troubles and unmute buttons,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: In the presence of stuffies,

Who in the kiddos' stead gather at the table,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: In the middle of a pandemic,

Social distance between heaven and earth is no more and,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: While we've all been wearing masks,  
God's face has been revealed in a holy child,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: When the toilet paper ran out,  
And the people of God could not be convinced that scarcity reigns,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: In times of fear and illness,  
Through Nurses and Doctors, Social Workers and Hospital Staffs,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: Through the voice of prophets,  
In the wilderness and in the city streets,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: Even when school closed down,  
Through educators as selfless as tireless,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: In a dark church parking lot,  
If even this part of our planning has come to pass,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

One: In every place on earth  
Let our Christmas proclamation be heard,

**Many: The light has come to us.**

**Carol**     *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* from Cantata No. 147, J. S. Bach  
Pat Hanley, recorder

## **Christmas Prayer**

**Carol**     *Oh Holy Night*, P. Cappeau, A. Adam  
Coleen Labman, vocals; David Labman, piano & vocals

**The Christmas Story**     Luke 2:1-20

## **Carol**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*, P. Brooks, L. Redner

David Labman, piano & vocals

**O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary and gather'd all above.  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth.  
And praises sing to God the King and Peace to men on earth.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us, we pray.  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born to us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

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## **Prayer for Illumination**

## **Homily**

## **Benedictory Prayer**

## **Carol**      Silent Night, Holy Night

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

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*Thank you to our musicians in today's service including: David Labman, piano & vocals; Colleen Labman, vocals; Pat Hanley, recorder*

*Poinsettias for today's service were given by:*

*Gina Pacala, in memory of Mr. E Griffin Strassenburgh Jr. and Rev. Leon Pacala.*

*Peter and Suzette Boulay, in memory of Susan Boulay*

*Ken Dodgson and family, in memory of Sally Lewis Dodgson*

*John and Sally Lake, in honor of loved ones.*

*The McClellan Family, in honor of today's health care professionals*

*Tom and Betty Richards, in memory of Thomas and Mary Richards*

*The Richardson Family, in memory of Charles Porter*

*Ken, Peg, Erin, and Adam Williams, in memory of Brenda P. Williams*

*Nan "Nana" Wilson, in honor of Mia, Drew, Aria, Wes and Z*