

Friday 24th. December, 2021 6.30 pm.

Christmas Eve

Minister: Rev. Ian Taylor, B.D., Th.M.

Assistant Minister: Rev. Edson Duque de Castro, B.A., B.D., M.Sc.R.

Musical Director: Mr. Alan A. Craig. B.Mus., P.G.C.E.



Welcome & Intimations

Call to Worship

Hymn 302 It was on a starry night when the hills were bright,

- 1 It was on a starry night when the hills were bright,
earth lay sleeping, sleeping calm and still ;
then in a cattle shed, in a manger bed,
a boy was born, King of all the world.

*And all the angels sang for him,
the bells of heaven rang for him ;
for a boy was born, King of all the world.
And all the angels sang for him,
the bells of heaven rang for him ;
for a boy was born, King of all the world.*

- 2 Soon the shepherds came that way, where the baby lay,
and were kneeling, kneeling by his side,
to celebrate his birth bringing peace on earth ;
a boy was born, King of all the world.

Joy Webb (b.1932)

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Opening Prayer

The Advent Wreath

Hymn 282 'Christmas is coming!' vv.1-5

*Christmas is coming,
the Church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.*

- 1 The first is for God's promise
to put the wrong things right,
and bring to earth's darkness
the hope of love and light.

Chorus

- 2 The second for the prophets,
who said that Christ would come
with good news for many
and angry words for some.

Chorus

- 3 The third is for the Baptist,
who cried, 'Prepare the way.
Be ready for Jesus,
both this and every day.'

Chorus

- 4 The fourth is for the Virgin,
who mothered God's own son
and sang how God's justice
was meant for everyone.

Chorus

5 At last we light the candle
kept new for Christmas day.
This shines bright for Jesus,
new-born, and here to stay.
 Christ is among us.
 The candles in the ring
 remind us that our Saviour
 will light up everything.

St. Luke 2:1-14

Address

Hymn 312 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

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.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask you to stay
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Sometimes attributed to John Thomas Macfarland (1851-1913), *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs* (1892 Louisville), *Little Children's Book: For Schools and Families* (1885 Philadelphia) Copied from HymnQuest 2010: CLUE Version HymnQuest ID: 50822

Prayer of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in 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, for
ever. Amen.**

Hymn 301 Hark the herald angels sing,

1 Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see:
hail, the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.

- 3 Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace:
hail, the Sun of Righteousness.
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.
*Hark, the herald-angels sing
glory to the new-born King.*

Charles Wesley, (1707-1788), George Whitfield (1714-1770), Martin Madan (1726-1790) Copied from
HymnQuest 2010: CLUE Version HymnQuest ID: 53955

Benediction

Choral Amen (3-fold)

