

**Christmas Eve Worship**  
December 24, 2021 ~ 11:00 p.m.

**GATHERING**

The Prelude                    *Medley for Christmas*                    arr. Sondra Tucker  
   *Cantique de Noel (O Holy Night)*                    19<sup>th</sup> C. French carol  
                      arr. Chip Davis  
*Love Came Down at Christmas with The First Noel* English carols  
                      arr. Catherine McMichael

The Welcome  
\*The Carol                    ***O Come, All Ye Faithful***                    ADESTE FIDELES,  
                      John F. Wade

**WAITING AND LONGING**

Lighting the Advent Candles  
Leader 1: Advent is a time of waiting. Our wait is almost over!  
Leader 2: We light the candle of HOPE and remember that our only hope is in Jesus.  
Leader 1: We light the candle of PEACE and remember the birth of Christ is the birth of peace.  
Leader 2: We light the candle of JOY as our hearts sing for joy to the Lord of our salvation.  
Leader 1: We light the candle of LOVE and know that God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. Love comes with Jesus' birth.

The Song                    *Be Born in Me*    Bernie Herms, Nichole Nordeman

**WE HEAR GOD'S PROMISES**

The Scripture Readings                    from John 1, Luke 2, Matthew 1, 1 Timothy 1

The Anthem                    *All On a Silent Night*                    Becki Mayo, *Stille Nacht*

The Prophecy                    Isaiah 9:2-7

The Meditation                    **"Light in the Darkness"**

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Prayer

The Song                    *Light of the World*                    Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan,  
                      Paul Mabury arr. Galbraith

**WE WELCOME THE LIGHT**

The Christmas Proclamation                    from Isaiah 9:2, 6; 1Peter 2:10  
Leader: A Boy has been born for us;                    *The Cloth in the Cradle*

**People: A Child has been given to us.**  
Leader: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, the Prince of Peace. Once we were no people.

**People: Now we are God's people.**  
Leader: Once we walked in darkness;  
**People: Now we have seen a great light.**

\*The Carol                    ***Joy to the World***                    ANTIOCH, Isaac Watts,  
                      Lowell Mason based on Handel

The Scripture Reading                    Luke 2:8-20

\*The Carol                    ***Angels We Have Heard on High***                    GLORIA, French carol,  
                      arr. Edward Barnes

A Song of Praise for Christ's Birth                    Jennifer Phillips

In a little town, known for nothing much, God's holy Child was born.

**Welcome the Light!**

By the faint light of the moon, Mary and Joseph found their way.

**Welcome the Light!**

Shown by a courtyard fire, the open stable door.

**Welcome the Light!**

Warm breath of resting beasts, kindly sparkle in their eyes.

**Welcome the Light!**

In the shadowy stable stall, Joseph kindled a lamp.

**Welcome the Light!**

There Mary gave birth to Jesus, called God-With-Us.

**Welcome the Light!**

Angels opened the doors of heaven, sang, "Glory to God in the heights!"

**Welcome the Light!**

Shepherds saw the sky ablaze, left their sheep and came to see.

**Welcome the Light!**

In the darkest winter night, God set a brilliant star.

**Welcome the Light!**

Magi from the East divined God's shining sign.

**Welcome the Light!**

And on this Christmas night with joy, we greet the Child.

**Welcome the Light!**

**WE GO OUT TO SHARE THE LIGHT**

The Sending Song      *Amen! Tell It on the Mountain!*      John Work,  
Traditional Spirituals arr. Mary McDonald

\*The Benediction

\*The Postlude      *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*      Felix Mendelssohn,  
arr. Chris Rice

\*All who are able, please stand

**Worship Leaders:** Preaching – Jeff Watson; Liturgists – Pastor Matt Cook, Pastor Bud Pratt, Mary Cook; Soloist – Susie Jolink; Organist – Beth Sweers; Violin – Marilyn Brannen; Viola - Mal Brannen; Cello – Carrie Brannen; Saxophone – Jeffrey Allardyce; Bells of Joy; Chancel Choir

**Welcome** to our Christmas Eve Celebration! It is a privilege to share this time of worship with you. We hope you have been blessed through this celebration and we pray that you have encountered the love of God that seeks, saves, reaches, rescues and embraces all who open their hearts to the Babe of Bethlehem; our Savior, Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas from all of us at First Reformed Church!