**December 24, 2021**

Pre-worship music  
 Prelude While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks - arr. Young Rachel Hopple

Welcome & Announcements

Christmas eve Call to worship

An unmarried teenage girl was invited—

**to carry Christ into this world.**

An ordinary carpenter was invited—

**to be a father to a child unlike any other.**

The shepherds were invited—

**outcast and isolated, included at the manger.**

The Magi were invited—

**foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.**

And if she was invited, and he was invited, and they were invited—

**then we can trust that we too are invited.**

This story is for us.

**This love is for us.**

Family of faith, this is our invitation. Welcome home.

**Amen.**

OPENING HYMN (*O Come, All Ye Faithful,* no. 133 vs 1, 2, 3)

PRAYER OF THE NIGHT

A TIME TO WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

THE PLACING OF THE CHRIST CHILD *(Away in a Manger)*  
THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *The Lyon Family*

SUNG REPSONSE *(Tune: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, no. 347)   
 (© by John Kupar)*

As we light the candle of Christ,

We celebrate that Jesus has come.

Share the good news God is with us,

A baby, pure love God has shown.

Christ has come to us, Immanuel,

May we carry Christ close to home.

A MEDLey of carols:

*Joy to the World* no. 134 vs 1, 3, 4

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* no. 123 vs 1, 2

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* no. 121 vs. 1, 3, 4

A Christmas poem

A Christmas carol  *(Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!* no. 119)

Call TO RECONCILIATION

Let us keep silence as we receive the newborn king into our hearts

Words of forgiveness

Handbells anthem *“Silent Night”* FPC Bell Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2:1-20

A Christmas eve reflection

We respond in song *(What Child Is This* no. 145)

Candlelight *(Silent Night* no. 122 vs. 1, 3, 4)

Closing BENEDICTION

Merry Christmas! Christ Has Come!

**Alleluia! Merry Christmas!**

Postlude Now Sing We, Now Rejoice! - Manz Rachel Hopple

*Please extinguish your candles and place them in the baskets   
at the door and in the narthex.*

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!**