

# Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols 2022 ~ 7:00 PM

◆ Please stand as you are able.

“What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, and hope for the future.” – Agnes M. Pahro

Carol Sing

*What Child Is This*

no. 219

**What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

no. 238

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo! Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo!**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

no. 234

**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;  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

*The First Noel*

no. 245

**The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

Welcome

Prelude

*As Lately We Watched*  
Carillon Choir

Barbara Kinyon

◆ Call to Worship

Let us kneel in the darkness until we see God’s light emerge.

**Let us wait with hope filled hearts as Christ’s image grows within us and shows us life.**

Let him speak to us and teach us love,

**Until we open our hearts to be his home.**

◆ Carol

*Once in Royal David’s City*

no. 250

Verses 1 & 2: Choir Only

Verses 3 & 4: Congregation & Choir

**Jesus is our childhood’s pattern; day by day, like us he grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feel-eth for our sadness, and he shar-eth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

Lighting of the Advent Candles and the Christ Candle

Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us; Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus. It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ Candle.

**We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.  
He was the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts.  
He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ, our hope is fulfilled;  
our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed. We rejoice, a Savior is born.**

(Sung Response no. 206, vs. 1)

**I want to walk as a child of the light.**

**I want to follow Jesus.**

**God sent the stars to give light to the world.**

**The star of my life is Jesus.**

**In him there is no darkness at all.**

**The night and the day are both alike.**

**The Lamb is the light of the city of God.**

**Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

◆ Signs of Peace and Unity in Christ and the Passing of the Friendship Folders

*Tonight no one is a stranger. All are joined together as one family through the miracle of the birth of one small baby. Let us share our joy and excitement at being present in worship with one another.*

*Greet your neighbor and exchange appropriate signs of peace and unity.*

Music

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!*  
Cross Connection

arr. Taylor Davis

Christmas Prayer for Those in Need

*Let us remember those for whom life is hard this Christmas- the hungry, the poor, those in ill health, those who mourn, those that are away from their families, and those who do not know the love of Christ. Offer silent prayers for them throughout the service.*

Offering

*Your offering changes lives. Our loose plate offering this evening helps support local families in need through Act in Faith and helps feed neighbors around the globe through the Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event.  
Thank you for your generosity.*

Offering Music

*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*  
Chancel Choir and Carillon Choir

Neil Harmon

## Service of Lessons and Carols

First Lesson

Genesis 3:1-9  
*“Adam and Eve rebel against God.”*

Caroline Travis

Carol

*Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

no. 296, verse 2

**Tell how, when at length the fullness of th’appointed time was come,  
Christ, the Word, was born of woman, left for us his heavenly home;  
showed us human life made perfect, shone as light amid the gloom.**

Second Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9  
*“The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.”*

Heidi Krug

Anthem

*Blessed Be That Maid Marie*  
Chancel Choir

arr. Ed Harris

Carol

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

no. 218, vs. 1 & 4

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

**For lo! The days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.**

Third Lesson

Micah 5:1-4  
*“The prophet foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.”*

Jeremy Lynn

Carol

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

no. 230, verse 1

**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.**

Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7  
*“The birth of Jesus.”*

David Thomas Rounsley-Maxwell

Carol

*Joy to the World*

no. 246, verse 1 & 2

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:8-20  
*“The shepherds go to Bethlehem.”*

Tony Sims

Anthem

*See Amid the Winter’s Snow*  
Chancel Choir

arr. Richard Kingsmore

◆ Sixth Lesson

John 1:1-5, 14  
*“The Word became flesh.”*

Rev. Molly Dee Rounsley

The sixth lesson is read in the midst of the people, symbolizing the incarnation of the Word of God:  
*“The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.”*

Meditation

Rev. Dr. Truman Brooks

Prayer

Lord, this is the season for miracles and we pray for one tonight. Where there is sorrow, **we pray for your grace to light the darkness.** Where there is despair, **we pray for your hope to light the darkness.** Where there is hatred, **we pray for your forgiveness to light the darkness.** Where there is war, **we pray for your love to light the darkness.** Where there is confusion, **we pray for your peace to light the darkness.** Where there is injustice, **we pray for your courage to light the darkness.** Where there is fear **we pray for your joy to light the darkness.** It is the season for miracles and we pray for one today: Come, Lord Jesus, may your light come into our world. **Amen.**

Passing of the Light *Receive the candlelight from your neighbor by tilting your unlit candle to receive the flame from their upright and lit candle.*

◆ Carol *Silent Night, Holy Night* no. 239

**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!**

*(Raise Candles on Third Verse)*

**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.**

◆ Christmas Benediction

Believe: for light is now in the world.  
**Believe: for God has become one of us.**  
Believe: for Love is born in each of us.  
**Believe: for the manger is full.**

Go and believe it is as the prophets said and the blessing of Christmas, of family, of friends, and of God be with you this night and always. **Amen.**

◆ Postlude *Angels from the Realms of Glory* arr. Ellson

*Please extinguish your candle as the lights come on and place the candles in the box marked "used candles".*

**Bold text indicates congregational response.**

The flowers on the Lord's Table are given to the glory of God and in honor of their daughter, Catherine Grace Rounsley-Maxwell's, birthday by Rev. Molly Dee Rounsley and David Maxwell.

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Preacher: Rev. Truman Brooks  
Liturgists: Rev. Molly Dee Rounsley,  
Rev. Allen Keller  
Organist: Steve Campitelli  
Acolytes: Madelyn and Mackenzie Crawford  
Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles:  
Scott and Nancy Holland  
Carillon Choir Director: Dan Rotz

Cross Connection, & Chancel Choir Director:  
Mike Muzzo  
Cover Art: Holly Grimm  
Live Stream Producer: Cory Smith  
Videographers and Sound Team: Tim Case,  
Holly Grimm, Todd Grimm, Heidi Krug,  
Jake Joslin, David Maxwell, Brad Rush,  
Zeke Smith,

# Christmas Eve Candlelight Lessons and Carols



### Welcome to our guests

- Thank you for worshipping with us this evening.
- We invite you to complete the information in the Friendship Folders when they are passed.
- Prayer request cards can be found in the friendship folder. To request prayer for someone, please fill out the card and place it in the offering plate.
- Join us for worship on Christmas Day at 10:00 AM and on New Year's Day at 10:00 AM (Continental breakfast at 9:30 AM). Sunday worship times include an 8:45 AM traditional service and an 11:00 AM contemporary celebration service. Both services are livestreamed at [umcwc.org](http://umcwc.org) and archived on youtube.
- Participate in a Sunday School class at 10:00 AM. Classes for ages 2 to Adults.

**OUR VISION**  
Building A Spiritual Home  
Where You are Family

**OUR MISSION**  
To be a Christian Community  
that invites everyone  
to know, love, and serve God.



129 South High Street, West Chester, PA 19382  
610-692-5190 [umcwc.org](http://umcwc.org) [umcwc.info@gmail.com](mailto:umcwc.info@gmail.com)



A Stephen  
Ministry  
Congregation



A Reconciling  
Congregation