

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE 24TH DEC 2020: 7pm.

Declaration of the Good News

(The service begins with the heralding of the good news occurring unannounced)

Reading:

Isaiah 9: 6 – 7

Song:

147 (TiS) 'To God be the glory'

Reading:

Luke 1: 30 – 33

Processional Carol:

304 (TiS) 'O come all ye faithful'

Call to Worship:

Like the shepherds, we come to the stable, uncertain of what we have heard and seen.

Longing to hear a word of peace and joy.

Like the wise ones, we have journeys to make. Gifts to offer and hope in our hearts,

That this world can change for the better.

Here, in this place on this summer's night, we gather to share the light of Christ, a light that shines in the darkness of our world and our lives.

We gather in awe and the wonder of this night, to share our joy.

Carols:

316 (TiS) 'O little town of Bethlehem'

312 (TiS) 'Once in royal David's city'

Reading:

Luke 2: 1 – 7

Carols:

318 (TiS) 'Away in a manger'

303 (TiS) 'Hark the herald angel sing'

Reading:

Luke 2: 8 – 20

Carols:

299 (TiS) 'While shepherds watched their flocks by night'

309 (TiS) 'Angels from the realm of glory'

Lighting the Advent Wreath:

Advent, the season of preparing is over. Our waiting is finished. Now we joyfully celebrate the fulfilment of God's promise of salvation.

We light a candle of hope: hope for ourselves, and for God's beloved creation.

We light a candle of peace: peace in our hearts, and in the world.

We light a candle of joy: joy to all people and within our whole being.

We light a candle of love: the promise of God's unconditional love for all of creation.

And now the hour is upon us and the season is fulfilled.

We light the Christ candle, the light of the world, the light of possibility. Amen.

Reading:

John 1: 1 – 14

Christmas Message: Rev Loni

Carol:

311 (TiS) 'Silent night' (*Guitar*)

Prayers of the People:

O God of star and stable, you lead us toward wonder and to hope. You gathered us together to hear through words and songs your promise of love.

Now we offer our concerns and our dreams, our hopes and our fears.

Like the shepherds who sought the stable, we seek your promise of peace.

We pray for your people broken by violence, those who live with fear, and those who live without hope.

Like the wise ones who dedicated their gifts, we remember those in need.

We pray for those who are lonely, hungry, or forgotten; for those who are ill in body and spirit, for those who are confused or afraid.

We pray for your joy and love, for all your people.

Holy One, you came as a child, offering renewal of life. May our prayers be a new beginning: for healing, truth, and trust. May we embody love that is forgiving, compassionate, and gracious.

We pray these things in the name of Jesus who became the Christ. **Amen.**

Concluding carol:

268 (TiS) 'Joy to the world'

Blessing