



NEW BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT  
COMMUNION SERVICE

December 24, 2024 4:00 p.m.

Welcome & Prayer

Rev. Tom Gomola

Call to Worship

**Isaiah 9: 2, 6 & 7**

Rev. Teresa Kendall

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

**People: on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.**

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

**People: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Leader: Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

**Reading 1**

Mary Lynn Barnes

\*Hymn **#41** (blue, all verses) **“O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL”**

1. 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!

(Refrain) O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

2. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be all glory given, Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)

3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exaltation! Sing all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all Glory in the highest! (Refrain)

Special Music

Katie Wright

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

Larry & Linda Smith

**First lesson**

**Luke 1:26-35,38**

Maria Barnes

## Reading 2

Katie Wright

Hymn (bulletin, screen, verse 6) **“O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”**

6. O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid all our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Hymn #2 (blue, verse 1) **“COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS”**

1. Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free; From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee. Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

## Second Lesson

Luke 1:32-35

Katie Wright

\*Hymn #56 (blue, verses 1, 2 & 6) **“THE FIRST NOEL”**

1. The first Noel the angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay akeeping their sheep, On a cold winter’s night that was so deep,

(Refrain) Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east beyond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)

6. Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord. That hath made heaven and earth of nought, And with His blood our life hath bought. (Refrain)

Hymn #44 (blue, verses 1 & 2) **“O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLELEM”**

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.

2. For Christ is born of Mary; And gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth! And praises sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.

Hymn #25 (blue, verses 1 & 3)      **“AWAY IN A MANGER”**

1. Away in a manger, no crib for His bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

**Forth Lesson**

**Matthew 1:20-24**

Rev. Teresa Kendall

Hymn #31 (blue, verses 1 & 3) **“HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING”**

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn 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 angles sing, “Glory to the newborn 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 we no more may die, Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Meditation

Tom Gomola

\*Hymn #59 (blue, verse 1) **“WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS”**

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around. And glory shone around.

\*Hymn #23 (blue, verse 1)      **“ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH”**

1. 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.

**Reading 4**

Byron Barnes

Hymn #66 (blue, verses 1 & 5)

**“WE THREE KINGS”**

1. We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar. Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

(Refrain) O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright; Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!

5. Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia, Alleluia Sounds through the earth and skies. (Refrain)

Holy Communion

Hymn #60 (blue, verses 1-4)

**“SILENT NIGHT”**

1. 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.

2. 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.”

3. 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.

4. 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.

Benediction