

**Christmas Eve
Family Service
December 24, 2009 6:00 p.m.**

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***Our mission is to change peoples' lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.***

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~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Prelude

Liturgy for Lighting the Christ Candle: Fulfillment

L: The Advent time of waiting and preparing is over! We have lit four candles that remind us about longing and peace and joy and love (light all four Advent candles).

P: *These candles remind us that God promises to be with us, to comfort us, to help us rejoice, and to teach us to love.*

L: Today we celebrate that God has come to be with us in the baby called Jesus.

Child: Today we light one more candle and we call it the Christ candle.

L: This candle reminds us of all God has done for us. God fills us with good things, like hope and peace, and joy and love. God is faithful to us. God is with us, now and always.

All: *O God, come, lead us through our lives. Give us courage to spread your light in the world. Amen.*

Hymn "The First Noel" #245 vs.1-2
*Hand Bell Ringers: Monica Hefron, Dave & Kim Nadreau,
Randy Belseth, Penny Cates, Melanie & Jovianna Baggaglio, Sam Hall*

Prayer of Confession

O God of wonder in ordinary places, we wonder if we might have missed your coming, had we been there, with the stable too out of the way, the cradle too makeshift, the animals too noisy, the shepherds too crude, the carpenter too rough, the mother too young, the night too dark and cold. We confess our preference for trumpets and hallelujah choirs, for cherub-cheeked children, for gift exchanges, and shopping day countdowns. Forgive us for not seeing you in out-of-the-way places and in unlikely people. In this season of darkness and light, hold us close. Amen.

Offertory "Little Drummer Boy"
Musicians: Arielle & Nathaniel Wilson, Zach Beauchaine

Doxology

Offertory Prayer

The Shepherds Tale

Hebrew Scripture *Isaiah 9: 2-6*

Hymn "He is Born" #228

Scene 1: Shepherds On a Hill

Hymn "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" #218, vs. 1,4

Scene 2: The Shepherds Tale

Gospel Reading *Luke 2: 1-7*

Anthem

Gospel Reading *Luke 2: 8-14*

Hymn "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" #240, vs. 1-2

Scene 3: The Hills Are Alive

Gospel Reading *Luke 2: 15-19*

Hymn "Away in a Manger" #217, vs. 1-2

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Prayers of the People

Litany of Light "Silent Night"

Blessing

Silent Night

**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!**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, loves 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!**

*Thank you to all who were willing to participate in
tonights's celebration!*

Greeters:

Shawn & Heather Brown

Ushers:

Ginny DeLang & Ray Talke