

Bayview United Church

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Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service

Tuesday, December 24th, 2019 7:00 p.m.

(*congregation stands as able)

Praising God

Prelude "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Noel Rawsthorne

Welcome C. MacLean

Musical Interlude

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Carol (64) "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1 & 2

Call to Worship

One: Welcome to this night of magic and mystery.

All: We come from our busyness, our routines, and our obligations, to celebrate a miracle!

One: We come to celebrate a birth, an ordinary birth, for we all began this way.

All: But what is more miraculous, more jaw-dropping, more Wow! than a birth?

One: Why, it is this night, when we make room in our lives for a little magic, a little joy and the miracle of God's greatest gift to us!

All: Tonight we celebrate the birth of Jesus, God coming to us as a baby boy.

One: Let heaven and nature sing as we rejoice that Jesus is born in our hearts once again!

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***Carol (60)** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" vs. 1, 3, 4

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of our imagination, we gather to hear anew the story of Your dream come true in Jesus, the Babe born in Bethlehem. But the dream did not end there; it is being fulfilled among us today wherever peace and hope are found in the loving hearts of adults, teens and children around the world. Oh God, give us the courage of Mary and Joseph, the wonder of waiting shepherds, and the voice of glorious angels as we sing and praise Your name. May our hopes, joys and dreams lift us this night, as we celebrate the good news that the birth of our blessed Jesus brings to our lives. Amen.

First Lesson Matthew 1:18-23 H. Kagawa
Trio "Long, Long Ago" Julie Knowles
Soloists: L. Lazar, K. Davidson, P. Cookson

Second Lesson Luke 2:1-7 C. MacLean
Carol (48) "Hark! The Herald Angles Sing" vs. 1 & 3

Third Lesson Luke 2:8-18 I. Kagawa
Duet "O Holy Night" Adolphe Adam
Soloists: L. Lazar and M. Butler

Fourth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11 D. Amos
Carol (91) "The First Nowell" vs. 1, 2 & 3

Story "The Miracle of Christmas" Told by Rev. Cooper

Anthem "Lo, How a Rose" Michael Praetorius

Offering "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"
Christmas Sonata 2 Carl Reinecke

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* **Dedication** (tune: (74) "What Child Is This?")

**Love fills our hearts and overflows,
Love fills our lives, expands and grows,
Loving is how we're called to live.
Loving is how each one can give.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring Him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

* **Offering Prayer**

Carol (38) "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Christmas Drama "Bells of Christmas: The Best Gift"

Written by Bill Wood and adapted by Rev. C. Cooper

Presented by the Drama Group

Christ Candle Lighting

D. Domelle

Carol (67) "Silent Night, Holy Night"
(Please be very careful as you light & hold your candle.)

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen (59) "Joy to the World" vs. 1, 2 & 4

Postlude "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
L. Redner arr. Mark Hayes

We welcome everyone to the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. May the Spirit of Christmas warm your hearts this night. Please join us for light refreshments following the service.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the service: those in the drama, those reading, the choir and soloists and those helping with refreshments. Thank you for giving of your time during this busy season of the year!

Ushers: D. Domelle, H., I. and B. Kagawa

There will be a **Carol Service** on **Sunday, December 29th**, at 11:00 a.m., to celebrate the season of Christmas.

**Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year!**