

First Church in Windsor, UCC

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2021, at 5 p.m.

The Inn



Prelude

The Holly and the Ivy/The First Nowell

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Played by Paul Zirbel and Erin Newcomb

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: We join together tonight because

People: God has done something amazing!

Leader: The angels, the earth, the songs let us know that

People: God has done something amazing!

Leader: God has given us an incredible gift.

People: God has done something amazing!

Leader: Jesus Christ is with us now.

People: God has done something amazing!

Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful

By John F. Wade

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**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.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

*** Lighting the Christ Candle**

Response

Love Waits for Us at Advent
Words and music by Amanda Udis-Kessler
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**Love comes to us at Christmas
Love comes to heal our souls.
Love brings an invitation
that our hearts might be made whole.
As we gather at the stable
in the darkness, glad and grateful
for the sacred in our midst,
for wonder and delight,
Christ is born in us this night.**

The Peace

The Light of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

Children's Moment: A Retelling of *Why Christmas Trees Aren't Perfect*

Adorning the Chrismon Tree

Mission Moment

Veterans of the Cross (The Christmas Fund)
Windsor Refugee Resettlement Community

Christmas Prayer

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem v.1
Words and music by Lewis H. Redner
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**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.**

First Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem v.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.**

Second Lesson: Luke 2:8-14

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem v.3

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in..**

Third Lesson: Luke 2:15-20

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem v.4

**O holy child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

Sharing the Light of Christ

Hymn

Silent Night vss. 1&2

Music by Franz Gruber

Words by Joseph Mohr

Public domain

**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!**

Solo

Let There Be Peace on Earth

By Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

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Sung by Arianna Zirbel

Benediction

Closing Hymn

Joy to The World vss. 1-2

Words by Isaac Watts

Music by G.F Handel

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**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 earth! 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!**

Postlude

The First Nowell

Arr. by Lloyd Larson

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