

December 24, 2019

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

### Gathering **Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand  
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth our full homage to demand

King of kings yet born of Mary as of old earth He stood  
Lord of lords in human vesture in the body and the blood  
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day  
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away

At His feet the six-winged seraph cherubim with sleepless eye  
Veil their faces to His presence as with ceaseless voice they cry  
Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia Lord Most High

### Welcome

#### \*Call to Worship

Glory to God in the highest,  
**And peace to God's people on earth. Alleluia!**

#### \*Carol #120 **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear  
Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel

O come, thou Dayspring come and cheer  
Our spirits by thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight  
Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel

O come, thou Wisdom from on high  
And order all things far and nigh  
To us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go  
Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel

O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind  
Bid now our sad divisions cease and be thyself our King of peace  
Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel

#### \*Invocation

**O God, we bring praise for the fir tree, the wreath, the  
candled dark; for the hush, the hiddenness, the hope, and  
the bold surprise; and for joy in the promise of your good  
and gracious Son, your word in our flesh, your alleluia in  
our hearts, and now your joy in our meeting as we  
worship. Praise be to you, O Lord. Amen.**

#### First Lesson

**Genesis 2:4-8, 15-17, 3:8-15**

#### Carol #162

**Angels we Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee  
Why your joyous strains prolong  
Say what may the tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo

#### Second Lesson

**Genesis 22:15-18**

#### Carol #146 (verses 1, 2, 4)

**Joy to the World**

Joy to the world! the Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n & nature sing  
And heav'n & nature sing and heav'n and heav'n & nature sing

No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground  
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found  
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love  
And wonders of His love, and wonders, and wonders of His love

#### Third Lesson

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

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;  
**on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light  
has dawned.**

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

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

Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no  
end.

**He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,**  
establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.

**The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.**

#### \*Carol #154

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

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

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 men on earth

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

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

#### Fourth Lesson

**Isaiah 11:1-9**

#### O Holy Night

**Jill Christie**

#### Fifth Lesson

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

**Carol #164**

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

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes  
 But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes  
 I love Thee Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
 And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh

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

**Sixth Lesson****Luke 2:1-7****Choir****Christmas Sanctus****Seventh Lesson****Matthew 2:1-11****Instrumental****Kris & Mike Cosentino****Carol #176 Now Shine a Thousand Candles Bright**

Now shine a thousand candles bright  
 Upon the world's dark sphere  
 The deep blue sky is set alight as myriad flames appear  
 In suburb, ghetto, farm, and town  
 They spread the news abroad  
 That Jesus Christ is born tonight, our Savior and our God

O star that shone o'er Bethlehem  
 Now let your kindly light  
 With tranquil hope and glory shine in ev'ry home tonight

To ev'ry dark and anguish'd heart send down your ray divine  
 And may the light of God's own love  
 Like Christmas candles shine

**\*Carol #153 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old  
 From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold  
 Peace on the earth, good will to men  
 From heaven's all gracious King  
 The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing

**Away in a Manger**

Still thro' the cloven skies they come  
 With peaceful wings unfurled  
 And still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world  
 Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing  
 And ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing

All you beneath life's crushing load  
 Whose forms are bending low  
 Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow  
 Look now for glad and golden hours  
 Come swiftly on the wing  
 O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets long foretold  
 When with the ever circling years  
 Comes round the age of gold  
 When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling  
 And the whole world send back the song  
 Which now the angels sing

**Eighth Lesson****John 1:1-14****\*Carol #172****Silent Night, Holy 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 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

**\*Benediction****Sending**

# Dawson Covenant Church

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