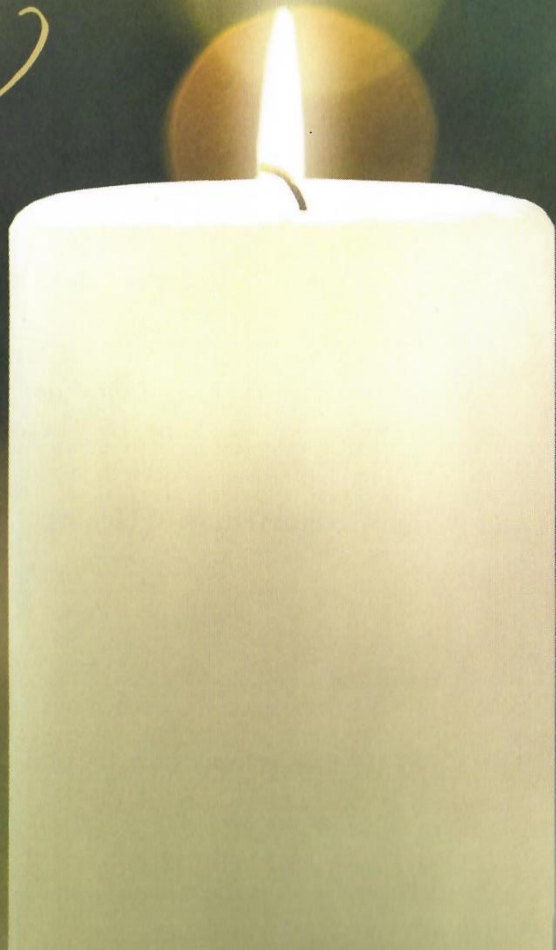


Arise, shine;

for thy

Light

is come



December 24, 2022:

9:00 PM

Gathering

Preludes

Christmas Eve Quartet

Peter Fiske, violin

Michael Merrill, cello

Quinci Sprague, cello

Susan Avery, bassoon

The First Nowell

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Sanghee Kim, organ

Lo How a Rose by J. Brahms

Christmas Eve Quartet

We Three Kings

Il Est Né, le Divin Enfant

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

FPC Chorus

Fum, Fum, Fum

arr. by Theron Kirk

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

Introit

Carol of the Bells

Sanghee Kim, piano

arr. by Peter Wilhousky

Call to Worship

Another Star, Another Night

by Richard S. Gilbert

Lighting of the Christmas Candle and Chalice Lighting

*** Carol**

Joy to the World

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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, wonders of his love.

The Timeless Story

Reading

The Annunciation Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum
Luke 1: 26-38

Reading

For So the Children Come
by Sophia Lyon Fahs

Marcia Rising

Anthem

The Work of Christmas
by Dan Forrest

FPC Choir

Reading

The Birth of Jesus
Luke 2:1-7

Lisa Fagerstrom

Reading

“Unexpected” from *Keeling in Bethlehem*
by Ann Weems

Kate Imhoff

*** Carol**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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!

Reading

The Angels and the Shepherds
Luke 2:8-20

Lisa Fagerstrom

Reading

Annunciation to the Shepherds
by Lynn Ungar

Katy Weeks

*** Carol** *Holiday Carol/It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

1. The holidays are here again, to lift the darkening year
And celebrate the Feast of Lights, ‘Mid glow of Christmas cheer.
For not alone was Jesus sought By wise men from afar;
The joy of other hallowed births shines with the wondrous star.
2. And Hanukkah is freedom’s shrine to all ‘neath tyranny,
The lamps are lit within their hearts for faith to make all free.
Joy to the world, these festive days! Nowhere my hope be dim.
And as the gladsome season glows, sing carol, song and hymn.
3. 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, to all good will, from heaven the news we bring.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.
4. For, lo! The days are hastening on by prophet bards 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 give back the song which now the angels sing.

Reading

The Magi
Matthew 2:1-11

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

Reading

The Camels Speak
by Lynn Ungar

Susan Avery

*** Carol**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

Reflecting

Reading

Amazing Peace (abridged)
by Maya Angelou

Ilene Rudman

Prayer

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

Anthem

O Holy Night

Krystal Morin

Candle Lighting and Returning

Reading

I Will Light Candles This Christmas
by Howard Thurman

Anthem

Night of Silence

Krystal Morin &
FPC Choir

*We will be exiting and going to the front of the building
for our candle lighting and silent night.*

Passing of the Christmas Light

*** Carol**

Silent Night

1. 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.
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.

*** Benediction**

The Work of Christmas

by Howard Thurman



Thank you to: Jeff Brown, Marcia Rising, Kevin & Susie O'Brien, Ushers;
Joe Stadolnik, Zoom Helper; Krystal Morin and the FPC Choir;
musicians & participants; and to our staff and leadership

Our flowers today are given by
Sharon Brownfield & Rick Lent ***

Skip Warren ****

Rev. Cynthia Landrum*

Marcia & Richard Allison**

Ann Sadler*

Trish Kwartler*

Peter Karb*

and Marion Scott*

** indicates number of poinsettias*



Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that this service is being held by a community that gathers on the stolen traditional lands of the Massachusett, Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Wampanoag People. We pay respect to those Indigenous Peoples who lost their lives in the colonization of this land and recognize that these Indigenous tribes are still today facing violations of sovereignty, territory, and water. We also give thanks for the Earth we walk upon, the waters, the lifegiving plants, and all the Earth's creatures, as well as the winds, sun, moon, and stars. We recognize this is just a first step in moving toward right relationship with Native peoples and healing of the Earth.

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Services Sunday at 10 am, in person and online



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