

GOLETA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 24, 2020

PRELUDE: "Christ Was Born on Christmas Day"
"A La Nanita Nana"
He Is Born, the Child Divine"

Merna McClenathen, flute

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING: Janet Votaw & Miranda Rodriguez

WELCOME: Rev. Jim Pazan

ISAIAH 52:7-10

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

⁹ Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

CAROL: "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Marilyn Gross, Kathryn McFadden, Ernie & Alison Tamminga

Verse 1

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

Refrain

O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

Verse 2

Yea Lord we greet Thee, Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing

Verse 3

Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation
O sing all ye bright, Hosts of heav'n above
Glory to God all, Glory in the highest

LUKE 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Angel Carol"

Ernie and Alison Tamminga

Hear the bells of Christmas ringing, al-le-lu, alleluia

Swift the wings of angels singing, alleluia.

Angels singing, noels ringing

Gladsome tidings bringing:

Christ is Lord of all.

Infant holy, infant lowly,

*For His bed a cattle stall
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing
Noels ringing, tidings, bringing,
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.*

*Hear the bells of Christmas ringing, al-le-lu, alleluia
Swift the wings of angels singing, alleluia.
Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, hear the story,
Tidings of a gospel true
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing greet the morrow:
Christ the Babe was born for you.*

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:8-15

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jeannie Cavender, CRE

CAROL: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Marilyn Gross, Kathryn McFadden, Ernie & Alison Tamminga

Verse 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

Verse 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 men on earth

Verse 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

Verse 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

LUKE 2:16-20

¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "The Virgin's Slumber Song" Max Reger
Deb Artz, Soloist

JOHN 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

REFLECTION AND BLESSING:

Rev. Jim Pazan

CANDLE LIGHTING: "Silent Night"

Marilyn Gross, Kathryn McFadden, Ernie & Alison Tamminga

Verse 1

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

Verse 2

Silent night holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born

Verse 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

Verse 4

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

Postlude: "Silent Night" Merna McClenathen, flute

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