



THAT FIRST
CHRISTMAS

GOD GAVE US HIS BEST.

Today...a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

LUKE 2:11 (NIV)

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW LONDON

December 24, 2017

5:30, 7:00 p.m.

Prelude: "Who Comes This Night" – Jonathan Fowler, soloist

Dave Grusin/Sally Stevens/arr. Sheldon Curry

Invocation

First Reading: **Isaiah 60: 1-2, 9: 6** *The glory of the Lord will appear.*

*Carol: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

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;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him...

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Christ, the Lord!

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Second Reading, **Micah 5: 2-4** *The Bethlehem birth is predicted.*

Carol: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ST. LOUIS

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.

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!

Third Reading, **Matthew 1: 18-23** *Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem.*

Carol: "What Child is This"

GREENSLEEVES

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's
lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with
anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are
keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom
shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to
bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come
peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings
salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the Virgin sings
her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe,
the son of Mary!

Fourth Reading: **Luke 2: 1-7** *Jesus is born.*

Carol: "Away in a Manger"

AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little
Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars
in the sky looked down where he lay, the little
Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

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.

Fifth Reading: **Luke 2: 8-20** *The Angels summon the Shepherds.*

*Carol: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their
joyous strains.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo, (repeat)

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Sixth Reading: **Matthew 2: 1-2; 10-12** *The Magi bow in worship.*

*Carol: "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we
traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and
mountain, following yonder star.

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God
and Sacrifice, Alleluia! Alleluia! Sounds through
the earth and skies.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, star
with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still
proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, star
with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still
proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Seventh Reading: **John 1: 1-9** *The light shines in the darkness.*

Solo: "The First Noel" - Kaitlin Glidewell, soloist

English Carol

The Christmas Story

Sharing of the Light

*Carol: "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

STILLE NACHT

(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.

(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

Postlude: "Joy to the World"

arr. Gerald Peterson

*Congregation may stand

Our Worship Leaders this evening are

Rev. Charles Glidewell, Senior Pastor

Rev. Cindy Johnson, Associate Pastor

David Chaves, Music Director

*We welcome you to First Baptist Church's 229th Christmas Eve service. We've been worshipping for 191 years in this Meeting House and have offered the service of candles and carols for over 50 years. The lighting of the candles is a very beautiful and memorable part of our Christmas Eve service. **Children must be age 12 or older to hold candles.** A special thank you to the youth, children and adults who participated in this evening's Candlelight Services.*

CANDLE LIGHTERS

Jake Blake	Matthew Churchwell	Sarah Donovan	Kelsea Koerner
Ben Boulton	Bethie Coverdale	Jonathan Glidewell	Damian Petry
Sam Boulton	Jonathan Doheny	Kaitlin Glidewell	Briana Thompson
			Annie Walker

Special thanks to Nicole Barton for her help in coordinating this year's candle lighters.

LIVING CRÈCHE PARTICIPANTS

Angel – Piri Thompson Mary – Nora Gantner Joseph -Thomas Shepherd

Shepherds – Michael Gantner, Jack Glidewell, Samantha Shugart, Tabitha Shugart

FREE WILL OFFERING TO BENEFIT LAKE SUNAPEE REGION VNA & HOSPICE

Baskets have been placed at the entrances to the Meetinghouse for your donations.

Checks payable to: LSRVNA – Donations may also be sent to P.O. Box 2209, New London, NH

Founded in 1970, Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice (LSRVNA) is a non-profit home health care agency with more than 115 staff and 90 volunteers. Our competent team of care-givers drive 350,000-400,000+ miles annually in a rural service area of more than 25 towns spanning 1,900 square miles throughout the Lake Sunapee and Upper Valley regions of New Hampshire. Our overriding goals have always been to enhance the health of our community and to help people remain in their own homes. Whether recovering from accident or illness, managing a chronic condition or spending your final days with loved ones in the comfort of familiar surroundings, services are available to meet these diverse needs:

Skilled Care is an array of acute medical services which are delivered by registered nurses, licensed nursing assistants, physical, occupational and speech therapists and staff in specialties in areas such as wound care, medication management, pediatrics, IV Therapy, Social Work and more.

Personal Care offers a menu of non-medical services that assist with activities of daily living to help keep individuals safe, secure and independent at home. Services include meal preparation, light housekeeping, laundry, errands, shopping, companionship and more.

Hospice Care is provided at end of life, generally when a person's life expectancy is 6 months or less. An exceptional team of nurses, aides, therapists, spiritual care providers, social workers and volunteers help patients and their families understand and cope with the complex physical and emotional issues faced at end of life.