



Westminster United Church

Christmas Eve 7:00 pm

Organ Prelude

Welcome

Opening Words from Scripture (*From Isaiah 11: 1-4*)

Hymn VU 60 O Come All Ye Faithful

Opening Prayer

Like the shepherds, we come to the stable,
uncertain of what we have heard and seen,
longing to hear a word of peace and joy.

Like the wisemen, we have journeys to make,
gifts to offer, and hope in our hearts,
that this world can change for the better.

Here, in the stillness of a winter's night,
we gather to share the light of the Christ child,
a light that shines in the nightfall.

**We gather in the wonder of this night
to share our joy and thanks for new life.**

In this moment of moments, this most holy night
when the stars above Bethlehem
and the smiles of our faces
are held safe by the deep Christmas night,

**We gather to celebrate God's peace, hope, joy and love - come to us as a child –
God's love with us, God's love for the world. Thanks be to God, amen.**

Lighting the Advent Wreath – Brandon Johnston and Nathan Poole

Advent, the season of preparing, is nearly over. Our waiting is nearly finished. Now
is a time of fulfillment and celebration.

In the darkness of night, we give thanks for light.

We light a candle of hope: hope for ourselves, hope for our community and hope
for God's beloved world. (candle is lit)

We light a candle of peace: peace in our hearts, peace in our homes and peace on
earth. (candle is lit)

We light a candle for joy: joy deep within ourselves, and joy to the world. (pink
candle is lit)

We light a candle of love: the promise of God's love for us, the promise of God's
love for the world. (candle is lit)

And now, on this cold prairie night, we find ourselves wrapped in wonder and light
and mystery. Advent season is done, and the moment has come.
(Christ Candle is lit)

The light of the Christ-child breaks through the darkness, and God's love illuminates the world. Amen.

Hymn VU 6 A Candle is Burning

Reading Luke 2: 1 – 7 John Mort

Solo Away in a Manger arranged by David Downe
given by Nick Urqhart

Reading Luke 2: 8 – 20 John Mort

Hymn VU 48 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Reflection "Pippin the Christmas Pig"
By Jean Little & Werner Zimmermann (used with permission)

Hymn VU 91 The First Nowell

Offering

Offertory (VU 55 vs 4)

"What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart"

Prayer of Dedication

Christmas Prayers

Hymn VU 67 "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

Sending Forth and Benediction

On this night of unexpected miracles found in unexpected places, go and be God's peace, hope, joy and love in the world. Be God's unexpected blessings to all you meet.

And as you go, may the love of God, the peace of Christ and the Holy Spirit be with you, on this night, and always

All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill to all. Amen.

Organ Postlude



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