

Worship of God in Christ December 24, 2022



"Colored by Stella Gregg"

Christmas Eve

Marking of the Hour

Barbara Moore

We mark the hour, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, and centering us in the embrace of the Holy Spirit.

Prelude - "On Christmas Night" (arr. Cherwein)

Barbara Moore

Lighting the Candles

We light these candles to welcome the Spirit, for they represent how Jesus is the Light of the world which guides us through life.

Opening the Bible

We open the Bible to remind us that God speaks to us through the Holy Word.

Call to Worship

Ed Smith, Connor Marshall

One: Friends and family, siblings in Christ, come and hear the good news!

All: The one who was promised will be born this night, a savior born as a human to live among us!

One: Angels proclaim the glory of God, the merciful one who sent us God's Son.

All: A gift from heaven, sent from God, yet born as a human to show us the way!

One: Shepherds shout and dance for joy, for the Prince of Peace is alive and well.

All: A baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger, born as a human to understand our suffering!

One: Mary ponders these things in her heart, imagining his life and calling.

All: Immanuel, God with us, yet breathing and sleeping, laughing and crying, born as a human to seek and save the lost.

One: Friends and family, siblings in Christ, come and hear the good news!

All: Jesus Christ is born. Come, let us worship!

*Invocation Will Cooke

Greeting Will Cooke

Please take a moment to sign and pass the red booklets found in each row so that we have a record of your presence with us today.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Raynell Stokes, Debra Bryant

^{*}Hymn - "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

Epistle Lesson - Titus 2:11-14 Ben Chenault

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Gospel Lesson - Luke 2:1-14 Sarah Buchanan

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Evening Prayer Rev. Val Fisk

Anthem – "Night of Silence" Sanctuary Choir

Sermon – "Homily" Dr. Matthew Tennant

*Benediction Dr. Tennant

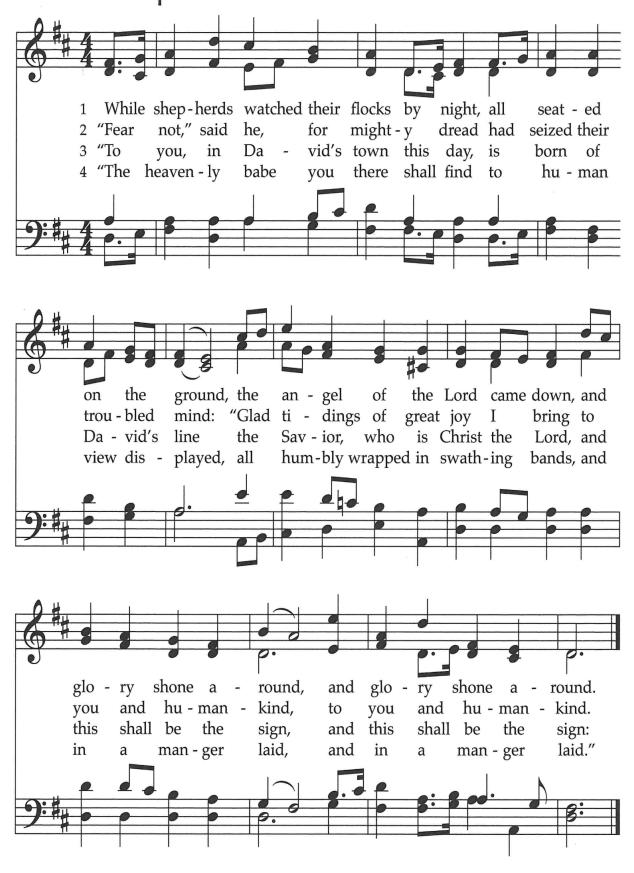
Barbara Moore

^{*}Hymn - "Silent Night, Holy Night"

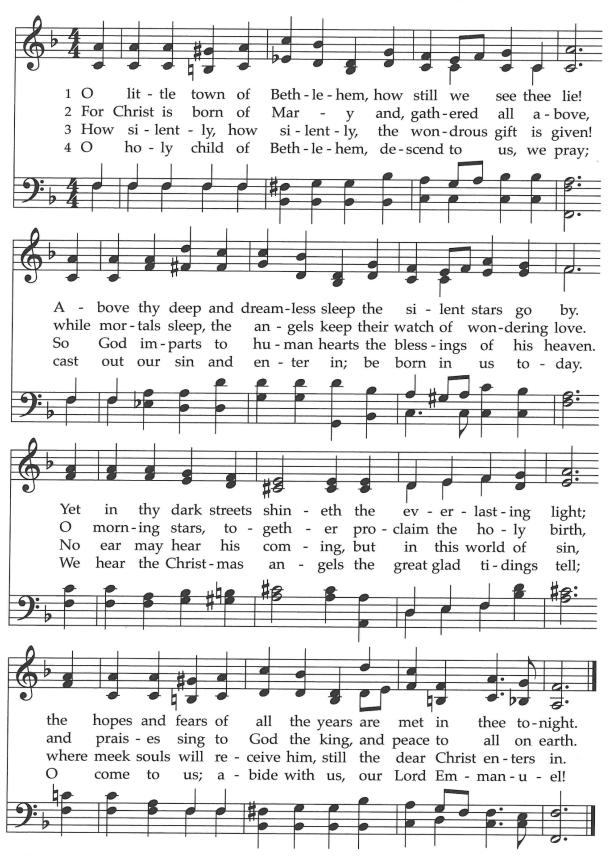
^{*}Postlude - "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day" (arr. Wagner)

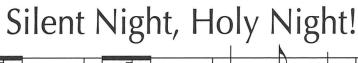
^{*} Please rise as you are able, in body or spirit.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks



O Little Town of Bethlehem







WELCOME TO UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We are blessed by your presence with us, and we trust that this hour will help to deepen your spiritual life. We look forward to meeting you personally at the close of the service.

ABOUT Us: University Baptist Church is a vibrant community of faith, bringing together university students and area residents in worship, study, and service to our community. We seek to be an authentic community of Christians who love and care for each other as a family, and openly welcome and include all people regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or background. We believe that all people have important gifts to share in God's family, working together as the hands and feet of our good and loving God. Learn more at university baptist.org

Newsletter: If you would like to stay updated on all the latest news and events at UBC, please call or email the church office at linda@universitybaptist.org.

WORSHIP ONLINE: Visit university baptist.org/live to download our Sunday worship bulletin and find instructions for how to watch live services online or listen on the radio.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: The text and music for our hymns and "Doxology" are reprinted by permission to University Baptist Church, Christian Copyright License No. 363447.

FLOWERS: On the communion table this morning is the Nativity drawing our attention to the anticipated birth of Jesus.

God has called University Baptist Church to minister to the University Community and to the residents of the Greater Charlottesville-Albemarle Community, serving as agents of Christ's love and justice for those in need and offering a vital family of faith.

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