



*O holy night*

the stars are brightly shining.



It is the night of the dear

*Savior's birth;...*

O night divine!

O night,

*O night divine!*

The child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.  
Luke 1:35 (niv)

# WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2015

Pastor Steve Peterson

## GATHERING BEFORE GOD

We are invited into the presence of God!

\*Please turn your cell phones off.\*

## WELCOME

**CAROL #175**

*"Once in Royal David's City"*

## PRAYER of ADORATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**FIRST LESSON**

**Genesis 2:4-8, 15-17; 3:8-15**

God announces in the garden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

**CAROL #120**

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

**SECOND LESSON**

**Genesis 22:15-18**

God promises to faithful Abraham and Sarah that by their descendants all nations of the earth shall be blessed.

**CAROL #146**

*"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"*

**THIRD LESSON**

**Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

## RESPONSIVE READING

Pastor: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

Congregation: On those living in the land of the

**shadow of death a light has dawned.**

Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,

**Congregation: And the government will be on his shoulders.**

Pastor: And he will be called

**Congregation: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Pastor: Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end.

**Congregation: He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,**

Pastor: Establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

**Congregation: The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.**

**CAROL #153**

*"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"*

**FOURTH LESSON**

**Isaiah 11:1-9**

The peace that Christ will bring us is foreshown.

**LOVE OFFERING**

**FIFTH LESSON**

**Luke 1:26-35, 38**

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

**CAROL** (See printed words) *“O Holy Night”*

**SIXTH LESSON** **Luke 2:1-7**  
Jesus is born.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**  
**The Pirmann Family**

**CAROL #154** *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

**SEVENTH LESSON** **Luke 2:8-20**  
The angels announce the good news of great joy.

**CAROL #157** *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

**MESSAGE** **“An Upside Down Kingdom”**  
**Pastor Steve Peterson**

**PRAYERS**

**EIGHTH LESSON** **Matthew 2:1-11**  
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

**CAROL #171** *“What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest”*

**NINTH LESSON** **John 1:1-14**  
John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.

**CHRISTMAS HYMN & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**  
*HYMN #172 “Silent Night, Holy Night”*

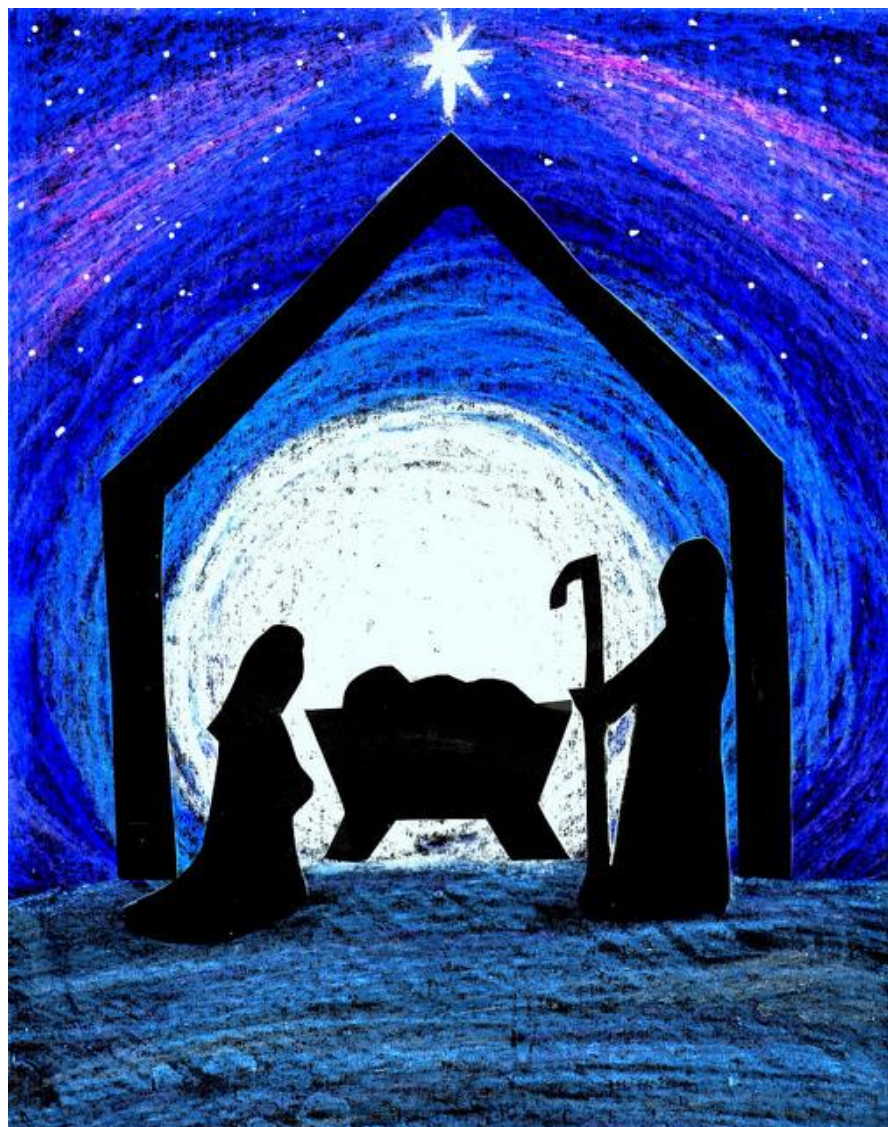
**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

# O Holy Night

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth;  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;  
Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  
O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another,  
His law is love, and His gospel is peace:  
Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother,  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy name;  
Christ is the Lord; Oh, praise His name forever!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!



May peace be with you  
this holiday season.  
Have a blessed Christmas  
and Happy New Year!

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