



*Christmas*  
EVE SERVICE

*Hope*

*7:00 pm*

WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH  
1008 SW Fourth Street | Topeka, KS 66606  
Phone: (785) 233-4241 | [www.wsbctopeka.org](http://www.wsbctopeka.org)

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT  
COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE  
“THE HOPE OF THE NATIVITY”  
December 24, 2021**

**WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

**THE PRELUDES** Janice Hedberg-Boyce & Jan Mauck

**\*OPENING #183** “Once in Royal David’s City” (Stz. 1, 2, 4) *ORGAN*

**WELCOME & PRAYER** The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter

**\* A CAROL #182** “O Come All Ye Faithful” (Stz. 1 & 2) *ORGAN*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *The Christ Candle’s Light of Love*

We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light!

**We who have lived in a land of deep darkness – on us a great light of hope, love, joy, and peace has shined!**

For the yoke of our burden and the bar across our shoulders - the rod of our oppressor - the Lord has broken!

**For unto us a child has been born, unto us a promised son given.**

All authority rests upon his shoulders; and we call him:

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace!**

His authority will grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

**God will establish and uphold the kingdom with justice and righteousness, from this time onward and forever.**

***The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!***

Isaiah 9:2-7 The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) Bible Copyright © 1989 the Div. of Christian Ed. of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S. of America.

**\*A CAROL #222** “On Christmas Night All Christians Sing” *PIANO*

**\*A PRAYER FOR LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

**LET ZION REJOICE:** 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.” 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. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. 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. *Isaiah 52:7-10 (NRSV)*

### PRAISE THE JUDGE OF THE WORLD

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

**The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.**

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

**He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

*Psalm 98 (NRSV)*

**A CAROL #198 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”  
#179 “Joy to the World”**

*PIANO  
ORGAN*

**THE BIRTH OF JESUS:** In those days, a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.”

***Luke 2:1-7 (NRSV)***

**A CAROL #180  
#203**

**“O Little Town of Bethlehem”  
“Away in a Manger”**

*PIANO  
PIANO*

**THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS:** In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

***Luke 2:8-14 (NRSV)***

**A CAROL #185 “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” (Stz.)**

*ORGAN*

**A CAROL #188 “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Stz.)**

*PIANO*

**A CAROL #189 “Angels from the Realms of Glory” (Stz.)**

*ORGAN*

**THE SHEPHERDS HURRY TO BETHLEHEM:** 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.” So, the shepherds went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they

made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying, and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told to them.

***Luke 2:15-20 (NRSV)***

**A CAROL #229**

**“The First Noel” (Stz.)**

*ORGAN*

**THE COLLECTION & THE LORD’S PRAYER - OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.**

**\*THE WORD BECAME FLESH:** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life,[a] and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

***John 1:1-14 (NRSV)***

**A CAROL #191**

**“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”**

*PIANO*

**THE MESSAGE**

**“HOPE in Person”**

**The Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister**

## THE TABLE OF THE LORD

**\*A CONFESSION OF APOSTOLIC FAITH:** Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, **but in these last days God has spoken to us by a Son, whom the Lord appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.** *Hebrew 1:1-4 (NRSV)*

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER** – The Table of the Lord Jesus Christ is *open* to all persons, regardless of age, creed, race, or church membership. All persons who profess faith in Jesus are invited to partake in this memorial meal commemorating the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Messiah. In solidarity with our brothers and sisters, we only serve nonalcoholic grape juice. Please hold each element until everyone is served, then we will feast together.

†Servers Prepare for the Table of the Lord

### THE ORDINANCE OF HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD

The Body of Christ, The Bread of Heaven

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE CUP

The Blood of Christ, The Cup of Salvation

SPECIAL MUSIC "O HOLY NIGHT"

Matt Smith, Soloist

**THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING** – We will receive a Christmas Offering for the work of God in the neighborhood, city, nation, and world. Please give generously as the Lord enables you. You can give online or use an envelope available in the pews.



**venmo**

## RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH

A CAROL #184 “What Child Is This?” (Stz. 1, 2, 3)

ORGAN

A CAROL #221 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

PIANO

†**THE CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY** – Ushers have distributed individual candles and wax protectors to worshipers before the service. ***Please be careful as the flame and wax are hot!*** The Minister will light the processional candles from the Christ Candle and pass the flame to the Ushers. An Usher will carry the flame to each aisle. Please keep lighted candles upright! Only tip the unlighted candles to transfer the flames person-to-person. We will sing after everyone has a lit candle.

\*A CAROL #186

“Silent Night”

GUITAR

**\*UNISON CLOSING PRAYER** - O God, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

**\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION**

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter

**\*POSTLUDE**

**\*NOTA BENE** – Please place extinguished candles and wax protectors in the metal cans beside the Sanctuary doors after the worship service. Thank you!

Merry  
Christmas!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY** – The Church Office will be **CLOSED** on Thursday and Friday, December 24-25 in observance of the Christmas holiday. The Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 31, and January 1 in observance of the New Year holiday. Call the Pastor at home if you have an emergency.

**DE-DECORATING**– Help de-decorate the church and Sanctuary after the Epiphany worship service on Sunday, January 10. Plan to stay (if COVID permits) or take a To-Go Lunch of Ham and Beans with cornbread and honey. A free-will offering will be received for the Youth Group.

**EMERGENCY** - If you have an emergency or need medical assistance, please notify an usher. An Usher will contact 911 Emergency Services and tell any doctors, nurses, or medical staff in the Congregation. If an emergency occurs, please keep calm and quiet. The service will continue after the crisis is under control by professionals.

**END-OF-THE-YEAR GIFT** – Please consider giving an End-of-the-Year gift online, by mail, or in person. West Side Baptist Church is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and all donations are tax-deductible as provided by law. All donations must be received or postmarked on or before December 31 to be included in your 2021 Statement of Giving.



**POINSETTIAS** – Thank you to the individuals and families who purchased and shared a poinsettia that graced the Sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas season. Families are encouraged to take their poinsettias home after tonight's service. Donors may leave their poinsettias in the Sanctuary over the next few weeks for decorations.

**THANK YOU** – God bless you and thank you for the many cards, gifts, and prayers for a splendid holiday and New Year. We are grateful the Lord called us to serve among you.  
~ Rexanne, Ivan, Jessa, Macy, and David