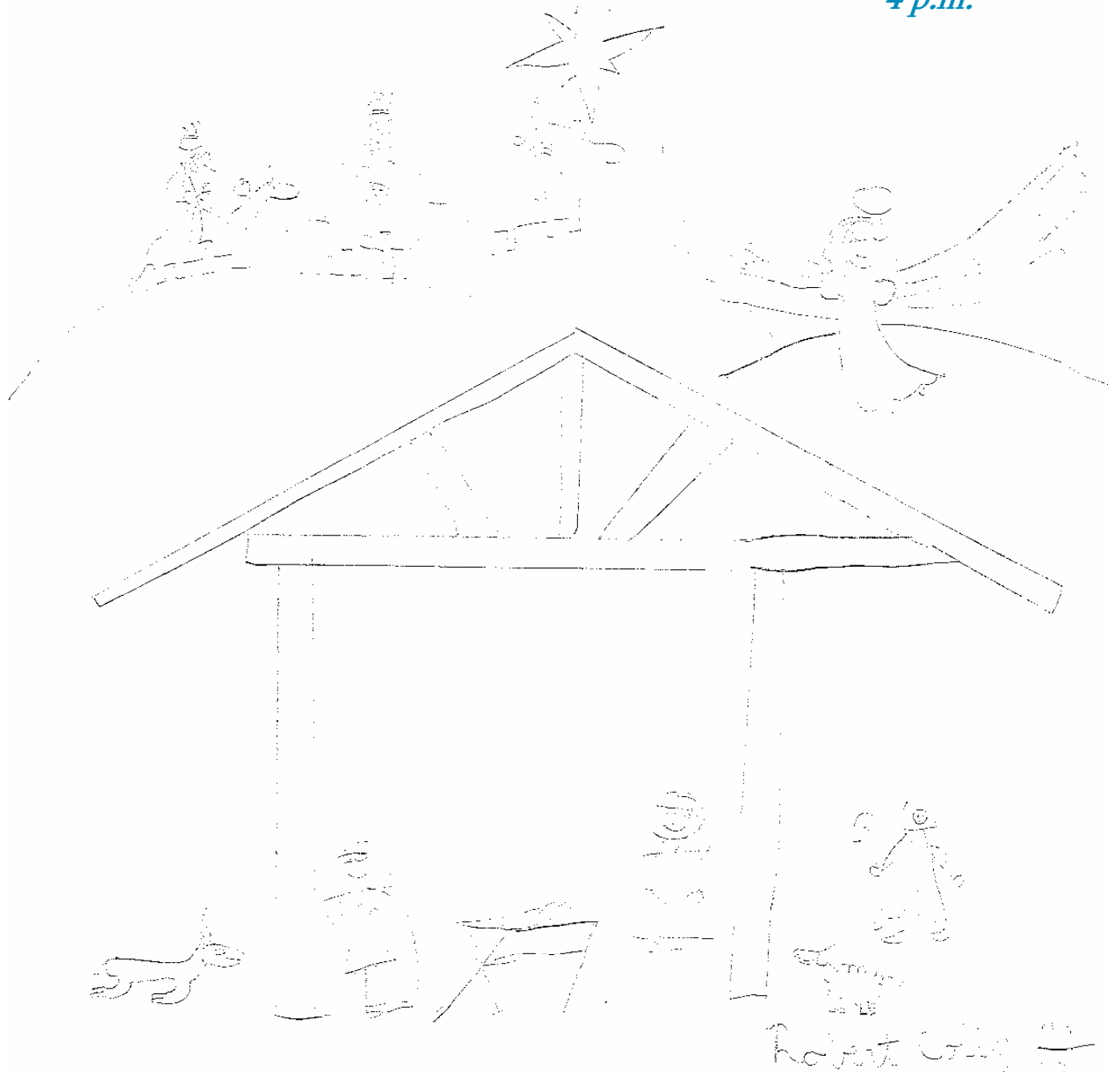


Christmas Eve

Family Nativity & Candlelight Service

December 24, 2009

4 p.m.



Heaven looked down on that Holy Night as a manger became an altar and a stable became a cathedral. History now looks back to that moment in time when God came, in Jesus, to reveal Himself to people everywhere. The humble shepherds were there. The Wisemen bowed before Him. And today, you and I join them as we gather around the manger.

*Those that are able please stand.

Please silence your cell phones prior to entering the sanctuary.

For grades K-5 we offer electric candles for the children. To turn on the electric candle, turn the bulb gently.

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY & CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

“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.”

— *Luke 2:6-7*

PRELUDE

Christmas Carols

Dr. Binh Vu & Stan Pepek

WELCOME

Dr. Randy Steele

**CAROL OF PREPARATION # 173 (vs. 1, 3, 4)*

O Come All Ye Faithful

Congregation

ADESTE FIDELES

**INVITATION TO WORSHIP*

Rev. Emily McColl

Leader: Tonight old dreams die and new dreams come to life. The Promise is fulfilled!

People: Tonight, hope gives way to joy and prayer to proclamation!

Leader: Tonight, angels far and near sing tender lullabies; swaddling clothes hold the warmth of parental love; animals and shepherds crowd in tight while a muffled cry squeezes out to greet the world.

People: Tonight we give thanks for every child among us. Each new birth, regardless of circumstances, reminds us of the preciousness of life, the potential of tomorrow, the promise of God.

Leader: Our candles illuminate our story. Dawn invades midnight. The Light of the world has come!

People: This light is a light for all. It ignites a flame within our souls and warms us from within. It radiates love with the presence of God-come-alive in human flesh within us and among us.

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

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES*

MUSICAL RESPONSE #170 (vs. 1, 3)

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

Congregation

CAROL

CHRISTMAS PRAYER OF ADORATION (IN UNISON)

O Holy God, we hear the story of shepherds and Magi, of maiden and carpenter, of prophets and angels, and we, too, come to Bethlehem for a blessing. You are born in our hearts because you have chosen the weakness of our bodies for your birth. We are filled with love because you have taken upon yourself our humanity. We are filled with hope because you have offered us your Spirit, your life and your light. We are filled with faith because all that is meek, lowly and humble in us becomes holy this night. Our salvation has come into this holy time and we say together, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all." Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL CAROL #152 (vs. 1, 3)**
Angels We Have Heard on High

Congregation
GLORIA

CHRISTMAS OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY MUSIC
O Holy Night

Carrie Lee, Soloist
by Adolphe C. Adam

PRAYER

Dr. Randy Steele

THE CHRISTMAS STORY – CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

Once Upon a Time in Bethlehem Children’s Choir by Russell Mauldin
Soloists: Claire Valian & Brooke Podres

Introduction Dr. Randy Steele & Reagan Gerry

O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1, 4) Congregation

Jesus You’re Beautiful Children’s Choir by David T. Clydesdale
Soloist: Brooke Podres

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (vs. 1, 3) Congregation

We Three Kings of Orient Are August Etienne

*Joy to the World! the Lord is Come (vs. 1, 2, 4)** Children’s Choir & Congregation
**Children may return to their families.*

***THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Leader: Arise, shine, for our light has come and the glory of the Lord has shone around us.

People: *The Lord will be our everlasting light and God will be our glory.*

Leader: On this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ candle for the child-King, the infant-Redeemer, the lowly-Lord. And now we know . . . He is born and nothing will ever be the same!

People: *The Light has come to us and unto us is born a Savior!*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Go Light Your World

arr. Chris Rice

**THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES*

As we sing "Silent Night," the lights will be dimmed. An usher will then light the candle of the first worshiper in each row from the Christ Candle in order to pass the light of Christ from person to person. *(To avoid spilling hot wax, please keep your lit candle upright allowing the person next to you to light his or her candle.)* We hold our candles high on the 3rd verse so that the light we have received may be seen from afar. As our candles are a sea of light lit from the one Light of Christ, so may we reflect Christ's light and love in the world.

**CAROL OF RESPONSE*

Silent Night! Holy Night!

arr. Franz Gruber

*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.*

*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.*

*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.*

*Silent night! Holy Night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

**CHRISTMAS BLESSING*

(Following the blessing, the ushers will dismiss you by rows.)



May the peace and joy of this Christmas night go with you!