

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-20 Pastor Mike, Pastor Robin
THE MESSAGE A Silent Night Pastor Mike
MEDITATION Choral Prelude on "Silent Night" Samuel Barber
(1910-1981)

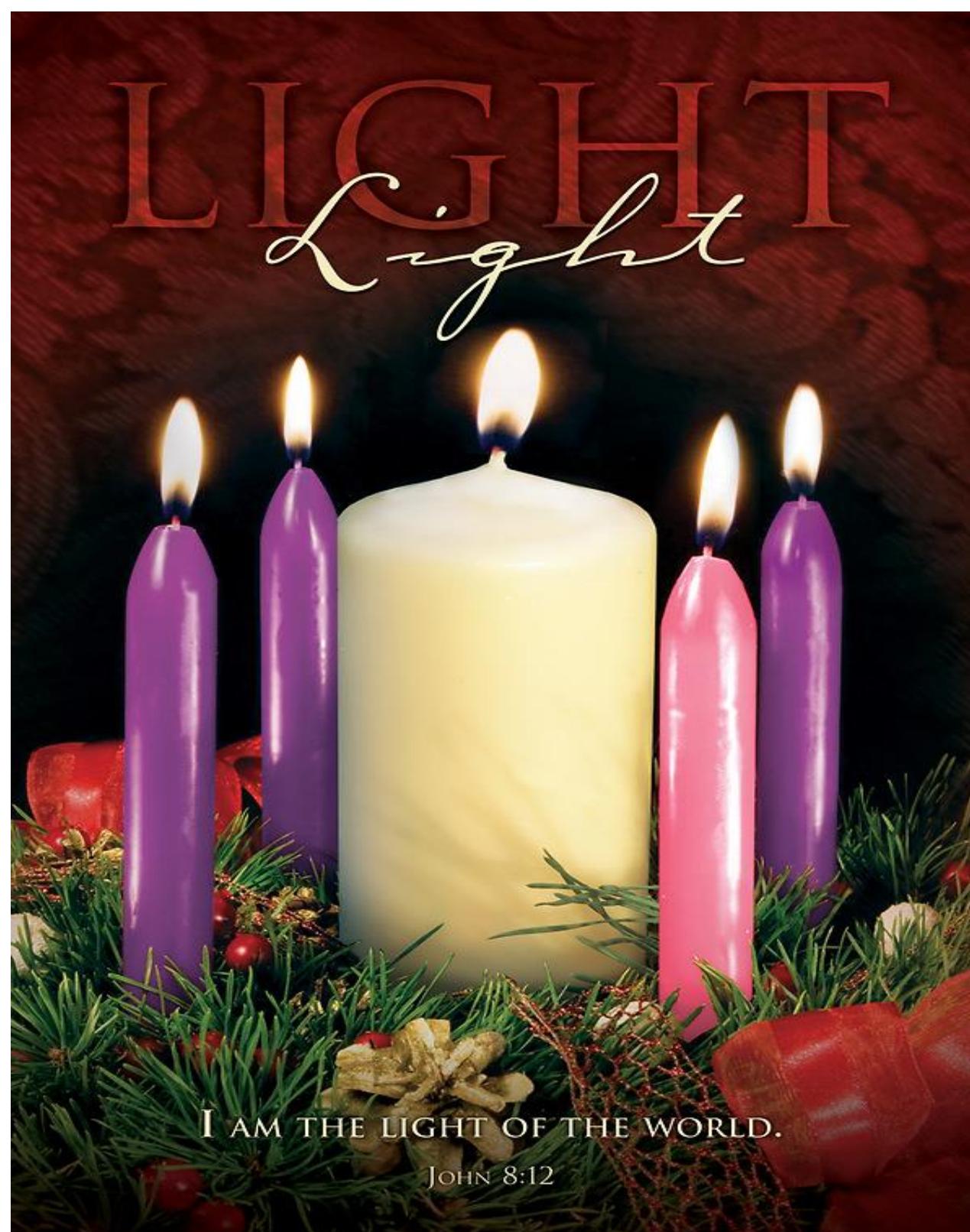
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed, Traditional Version
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

CAROL *Silent Night*
1. *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.*
2. *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!*
3. *Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!*

BENEDICTION Pastor Mike
EXODUS *Angels We Have Heard on High* UMH 238
Arranged for carillon by Milford Myhre

Many Thanks to...

Pastor Mike Derflinger
Dr. Rudy Shackelford, Organist
Pastor Robin Moscati, Children's and Youth Pastor
Adel Trevino, Church Office Administrator
Steve Wike for our Anthem
Jeremy Nardozi and Beth Cook for Sound, Recording and Editing





BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP CELEBRATION FOR THE BIRTHDAY OF JESUS CHRIST
CHRISTMAS EVE 2020
VIRTUAL ONLINE SERVICE**

Ten Years Ago on This Night...

Our Unison Prayer tonight is taken from our 2010 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service. Pastor Art Wolz preached, Carol Johnson and Rey Morales served as Liturgists, Cheyenne Taylor and Jordan Cluts portrayed Mary and Joseph, Will Neikirk was our Acolyte, our choir sang *From a Distant Home* as their anthem, Rudy played pieces by Liszt, Edmundson, and Handel, and our children’s choir sang *Jingle Bells* and *Do You Hear What I Hear*. At the close of the service, Sandy Fox sang a verse of *Silent Night* in German, and Adam White sang a verse in English with guitar as the congregation then sang this beautiful carol.

Tonight, our Service is pre-recorded and virtual due to the novel coronavirus. We include the story of *Silent Night* in our service and hope that you will participate as fully as you can, singing the carols and lighting a candle in your home.

Though we are apart physically, we are joined in the Holy Spirit and there is light and there is love all around us. My prayer is that you will experience the Advent values of Peace, Hope, Joy, and Love in all of your celebrations this season and as we look to 2021 and a brighter season to come. Merry Christmas! --Pastor Mike Derflinger

INTRADA *I Wonder as I Wander* Appalachian Carol
The Huron Carol French-Canadian Tune
(see UMH 244)

WELCOME Pastor Mike

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, when God’s light comes into our world, and nothing can overcome it.

People: God lights the way and brightens the path toward peace on earth and good will towards all people.

Leader: Do not be afraid. All is calm, all is bright. God sends Good News in the face of COVID-19, wildfires, and hurricanes,

People: In the face of closed businesses, canceled and postponed plans, racism. We claim God’s light. I choose to celebrate the Incarnation, God’s longed-for presence among us – human and holy, Emmanuel – God with us and God coming to us. I will find room in my soul and my life for Jesus to be born on this Holy Night. Amen!

OPENING CAROL *Joy to the World (vs. 1, 2, 4)*

- Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*
- Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

(modulation)

- He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHRIST CANDLE Adel Trevino

VOLUNTARY *Noël No. 10 –Full Organ and Duo* Louis-Claude Daquin
(1694-1772)

When God was born at Christmas in the land of Judaea,
That solemn day was bathed in joy,
There was no man, great or small, who did not bring his present
And did not offer ceaselessly all his wealth and riches.
--Provençal Carol

A LETTER FROM OUR MISSIONARY IN CAMBODIA, CLARA BISWAS Pastor Mike

CAROL *O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1, 2)*

- O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; Above they deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*
- For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!*

UNISON PRAYER

Loving God, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the Wise Men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children and your friends, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus’ sake. Amen.

CAROL *Away in a Manger (vs. 1, 3)*

- Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*
- Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray; Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Birth Announcement Pastor Robin

ANTHEM *O Holy Night* Adolphe Adam
Steve Wike, Soloist (1856-1803)