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Candlelight Service



Christmas Eve

For To Us A Child Is Born...

Isa. 9:6

**Christmas Eve
Worship Service
December 24, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.**

Call to Worship: “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Welcome and Invocation to Worship

Singing Together: (Congregation Stands)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Advent Responsive Reading: Christ
Prayer For Celebration

The Lord's Prayer

Doxology (Congregation Stands)

Special Music: “All is Well”

Scripture Reading: Matt. 2:11
Prayer For Illumination

Message: “The Cross of Christmas”

Prayer For Understanding

Response Song: “Away in a Manger” (Congregation Stands)

Benediction

Choral Benediction: “Peace, Peace/Silent Night”

Scripture Reference: Matt. 2:11 (ESV)

And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Synopsis: “The Cross of Christmas”

As we celebrate the birth of Christ in this Christmas Eve Candlelight meditation, we will continue to concentrate on the various attributes of the Advent Season. Using the gifts of the Magi as a springboard, we will summarize what we have learned about the “hope, love, joy, and peace” we celebrate in the birth of Christ. But in particular we will notice how each of these attributes points us directly to the Cross and the Sacrificial, Substitutionary atonement of Jesus to reconcile His saints to the Father and make relationship with Him, and therefore “hope, love, joy and peace” possible. We will find in the words of the prophets and those who saw Jesus in His infancy that His Crucifixion would play heavily in fulfilling the promises of Advent. Jesus was truly “born to die” and this will be made evident as we celebrate the Cross of Christmas.

Sermon Outline: “The Cross of Christmas”

I. Introduction, Matt. 2:11; Eccl. 3:1–2.

II. Exposition of the text, Matt. 2:11.

A. The context of the gift of Myrrh, Gen. 3:15; Luke 2:25, 30, 34–35.

B. Monitoring the gifts of the Magi, Isa. 9:6.

1. The gift of gold, 1Kings 9:14, 1Kings 10:10.

2. The gift of Frankincense, Lev. 2:16; Job 9:33.

3. The gift of myrrh.

C. The significance of the Cross in Christmas.

1. The hope of the Cross of Christmas, Eccl. 2:11; Lam. 3:24; Jer. 29:11; Zech. 9:12; Ex. 34:7; Isa. 59:9, 11; 1Cor. 15:19.

2. The love of the Cross of Christmas, Jer. 17:9; Mark 7:23; Rom. 3:10, 23; John 1:14; 1John 4:10; 2Cor. 5:21.

3. The joy of the Cross of Christmas, Deut. 28:63; Luke 22:42; Isa. 53:10; Heb. 12:2.

4. The peace of the Cross of Christmas, Isa. 32:17, 57:21, 59:8; Rom. 2:9, 3:15–17; Hab. 1:13.

D. The centrality of the Cross in Christmas, Luke 2:13–14; Hab. 2:17, 4:15; Rom. 5:1.

III. Conclusion

Christmas Eve Worship Songs
December 24, 2025

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply,
Echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
(Refrain)

Come to Bethlehem, and see,
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
(Refrain)

See within a manger laid,
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.
(Refrain)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy 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.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend on us, we pray.
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord, Emmanuel.

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
(Refrain)

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His Glory by,
Born that men no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
(Refrain)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him—born the King of angels!

Refrain

O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him—
Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
(Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n:
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
(Refrain)

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Advent Responsive Reading: Christ

[Pastor:] As we gather together this evening to celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus; all of Creation celebrates with us! For the coming of Christ into the world marks the most significant event of all time--the culmination of God's plan of Redemption. The prophet Isaiah celebrated the wonder of this holy night almost 3,000 years ago...

[Congregation:] For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

[Pastor:] and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

[Congregation:] And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isa. 9:6)

[Pastor:] Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,

[Congregation:] on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. (Isa. 9:7)

[Pastor:] Tonight, as messengers of the Gospel, we proclaim the good news, that Christ has come to redeem the souls of His people. In this, we rejoice with the angels, who sang of His birth from the heavens...

[Everyone:] For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" (Luke 2:11-14)

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

All Is Well

All is well; all is well.
Angels and men rejoice.
For tonight darkness fell,
Into the dawn of love's light.
Sing Ale. Sing Alleluia.

All is well; all is well.
Let there be peace on earth.
Christ's come; go and tell
That He is in the manger.
Sing Ale. Sing Alleluia.

All is well all is well
Lift up your voices and sing
Born is now Emmanuel
Born is our Lord and Savior
Sing Alleluia; Sing Alleluia;
All is well.

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Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay;
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus – no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

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.

Peace, Peace/Silent Night

Peace, peace, peace on earth,
and good will to all.
This is a time of joy;
this is a time for love.
Now let us all sing together
of peace, peace, peace on earth.

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.