

**HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**  
5:00 P.M.  
**DECEMBER 24, 2018**

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Prelude: *When Hope Came Down* .....Kari Jobe

Welcome .....Pastor Wes Oden

Lighting of the Christ Candle.....The Miller Family

\*Opening Carol 121 *O Come, All Ye Faithful!*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 (page 683) .....Patrick Hager  
**Christ's Birth and Kingdom are Foretold by Isaiah**

Ministry in Music: *Noel* .....Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Redman

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 (page 1012) .....Jessica Romance  
**The Angel Gabriel Comes to the Virgin Mary**

\*Carol 136 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 (page 955) .....David Brubaker  
**The Angel Appears to Joseph**

Ministry in Music: *Make Room* .....Matt Maher & Mark Hall

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-20 (page 1014) .....Sarah Sardina  
**St. Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus**

\*Carol 117 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Christmas Eve Offering & Prayer

Offertory: *Christmas is Here* .....David Heller, Jason Gray, JJ Heller  
*This year's Christmas Eve offering will join matching Egyptian donors  
and help bring a vision for a church and National Training Center  
on choice urban land near Cairo granted by the Egyptian government.*

Children's Story Pastor Laurie Smalley

\*Songs of Adoration *Christ is Come*  
***O Holy Night***

Meditation: Pastor Wes Oden

Ministry in Music: *Mary, Did You Know?* .....Buddy Greene & Mark Lowry

**Candle Lighting Ceremony**

The central candle of the Advent wreath represents Christ, the light of the world. During the service, the light from the Christ Candle has been carried to candles along the center aisle. During the singing of *Silent Night*, those who are nearest the center aisle are asked to light their candle from the aisle candles.

Then all those who worship will pass the light, holding the lit candles upright and tilting the unlit candle to receive the flame. Ushers will bring the light from the Christ Candle to the balcony. When all the candles are lit, we will stand for prayer and ask God to help us be Christ's light in the world. Then we will join together in singing *Joy to the World*. The texts of *Silent Night* and *Joy to the World* can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

Benediction

Ring of the Bells

Postlude

Acolytes: Luke Cole and William Roeske

Music Ministry Team:

Jordan Mullen, vocals; Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals;  
Bekah Brennan, keyboard & vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals;  
Naomi Christensen, violin; Dan Wartinger, percussion

As you leave, please extinguish your candle  
and place it in the proper receptacle in the foyer,  
but let the light of Christ's love burn on in your heart.

**May God bless you with  
a very merry Christmas.  
Our Worship Service  
on December 31 will begin at 10am.  
There will be no Sunday School  
or evening service on December 31.**



### *Silent Night*

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!  
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.

### *Joy to the World!*

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.

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.

# LOVE



Let us find  
our rest  
in thee