

HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE OUTDOOR SERVICE

4:00 P.M. DECEMBER 24, 2021

LISTEN AT 106.9 FM

Welcome

Lighting of the Christ Candle: The Huizenga Family

Opening Song: ***O Come, All Ye Faithful!***

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 (Sarah Derck)
Christ's Birth and Kingdom are Foretold by Isaiah

Ministry in Music: *Gather Round, Ye Children, Come* (Andrew Peterson)

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 (Doug Gaerte)
The Angel Gabriel Comes to the Virgin Mary

Song: ***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 (Sharon Johnson)
The Angel Appears to Joseph

Song: ***O Holy Night***

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-20 (Dave Brubaker)
St. Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus

Christmas Eve Offering & Prayer: Pastor Paul Shea

For this year's Christmas Eve offering we join World Hope International in providing self-sustaining assistance to the vital LaGonave Wesleyan Hospital in Haiti. Offerings will be collected Christmas Eve in both indoor and outdoor services, and may be received via all HWC donation options throughout December.

Ministry in Music: *Before the King* (Ferreira, Miller)

Children's Nativity: *Song of the Stars*
The children are invited to be part of our nativity reading during the service.
They may join everyone up front when invited by Miss Ann and Miss Emily!

Ministry in Music: *Mary, Did You Know?* (Mark Lowry)

Meditation: Pastor Wes Oden

Candle Lighting Ceremony

The central candle of the Advent wreath represents Christ, the light of the world. During the singing of ***Silent Night***, the staff will bring the light to you so that you may pass the light to others around you. Please hold and tilt the unlit candle to receive the flame. 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***.

Benediction

Music Ministry Team:

Jeff Babbitt, Jady Mucher, Kristen Sanasith, vocals; Amanda Cox,
keyboard & vocals; Caleb Hilsher, guitar

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

May God bless you with a very merry Christmas.

***Our Worship Services on December 26 will be outdoors at 8:45am and indoors at 11am.
There will be no Sunday School on December 26.***

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.

**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,
sing, all ye citizens 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]

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.

For Christ is born of Mary,
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King
and peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of the heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will
receive him still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to 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.

O Holy Night

O holy night
the stars are brightly shining
It is the night
of the dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world
in sin and error pining
Till He appeared
and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope
the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks
a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees
O hear the angel voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born
O night O holy night
O night divine

Led by the light
of faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts
by His cradle we stand
So led by light
of a star sweetly gleaming
Here came the
wise men from Orient land
The King of kings
lay thus in lowly manger
In all our trials
born to be our Friend
He knows our need
To our weakness is no stranger
Behold your King
Before Him lowly bend
Behold your King
Before Him lowly bend

Truly He taught us
to love one another
His law is love
and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break
for the slave is our brother

And in His name
all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy
in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us
praise His holy name
Christ is the Lord
O praise His name forever
His power and glory
Evermore proclaim
His power and glory
Evermore proclaim

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n
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.

Silent Night, Holy 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.