Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Prelude He Shall Feed His Flock - Handel: Pam Butterick, soloist
Song of Christmas - Stewart: Dorian Lopes, soloist
I Wonder as I Wander: arr. Aaronson
Breath of Heaven-Grant/Eaton: Taffy McCarthy, soloist
O Men from the Fields-Cooke: Pam Butterick, soloist

Welcome Rev. Dr. Charlotte Wright

*Call to Worship
Leader: Tonight old dreams die and new dreams come to life.
People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.
Leader: Hope gives way to joy and prayer to proclamation.
People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all.

*Carol #41 v. 1&2 O Come, All Ye Faithful Adeste Fideles

*Unison Prayer of Invocation
Emmanuel; God, you are with us. We have heard the promise of the prophets; we have caught the notes of an angel’s song; we have seen a star in the heavens, and we have believed. Tonight we have come to be with you because you have come to be with us. We seek an innocent, helpless baby in a crude manger; we seek a Messiah who will reign with justice; and you, the weakest and the strongest, the most humble and the mighty, have found us. Now we may love ourselves and each other, now we may truly worship you, praying all this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

*Carol #41 v. 3 O Come, All Ye Faithful Adeste Fideles

Lesson 1 Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7
The prophet describes the nature of the messiah and peace.

Carol It Came Upon the Midnight Clear #38

Lesson 2 Luke 1:26-35, 38
The angel Gabriel visits Mary.

Carol O Little Town of Bethlehem #44

Lesson 3 Luke 2:1-7
The gospel tells the story of the birth of Jesus.

Carol Away in a Manger #25

Lesson 4 Luke 2:8-14
The heralding angels announce to the shepherds.

Carol Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #31

Lesson 5 Luke 2:15-20
The shepherds go to the manger.

Anthem A Christmas Antiphonal Hopson

Christ Candle Lighting Liturgy (insert) Laird Family

Anthem This Holy Christmas Night Larson

The Coming of Christ in Lessons and Carols
(please remain seated for remainder of service)

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Anthem A Christmas Antiphonal Hopson
LESSON 6  Matthew 2:1-3, 7-12  
*The magi are led by a star to Jesus.*

CAROL  The First Noel #56

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER (debts)

ANTHEM  If Ye Would Hear Dutch Melody

LESSON 7  John 1:1-5, 9-14  
*John’s hymn of praise to the Word.*

MUSICAL INTERLUDE  O Holy Night  Adam
Rebecca Laird, violin and Brian Weiland, guitar

CAROL  Silent Night  *insert*

BENEDICTION

We wish to thank soloists Pamela Butterick, Dorian Lopes, and Taffy McCarthy for providing music for tonight’s service.

The greeters and ushers this evening are members of the Youth Group

The readers this evening are Anne Vose, Mary-Jean Miner, Herb Ward, Susan Waldrop, Nate Regan and Aubyn Veno

Thank you to all for contributing to our Christmas offering, located in the large basket, as you leave the church.

May the peace and joy of Christmas remain with you throughout this blessed season.

The Federated Church of Martha’s Vineyard  
Edgartown, Massachusetts  
Christmas Eve, December 24th, 2021  
We are a caring and worshiping community, seeking to serve God and neighbor.