

Carol: “Joy to the World/Unspeakable Joy”

Meditation

Video: “Mary Did You Know?”

Scripture: John 1:1-14

Lighting of the Candles

(The act of lighting candles and passing the flame symbolizes accepting and sharing the good news of Jesus’ birth. The ushers will light the candle of the first worshiper in each pew. Please receive the light by tilting your unlit candle into the flame. Share by keeping your lit candle straight up. Children may have electric candles. Please place your candle and holder in the back of the church after the service.)

Carols: “Away in a Manger” #203 & “Silent Night” #186

Benediction

*The poinsettia on the chancel has been given in loving memory of Gladys & John Bacon
From Sandy and Frank Haug*



**Oaklyn Baptist Church
Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2017
4:00pm**

*(Denotes please stand if you are able)
(If you must leave the Worship Service to use the restroom or for another emergency, please exit through the rear door of the church to minimize disruption to the worship service.)



Prelude

Welcome

Responsive Call to Worship:

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: Celebrate the coming of the Light.

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song, God's salvation is at hand.

People: Celebrate the coming of Salvation.

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

People: Celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace.

Leader: I bring you good news of great joy for all the people.

People: Celebrate the coming of the Christ!

Carol: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" #180

Responsive Invocation:

Leader: O wondrous God of the stars, we come tonight with breathless wonder to see the babe who will change our lives. We hear the names "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Prince of Peace," and we are in awe. You have touched the earth this night with your unconditional love. Touch us—touch our hearts and minds and souls. May we never tire of this story. May we never take it for granted. Make this night magical again.

People: Lord of Light and Hope, our minutes and hours have been swallowed up in preparation for this night and for the coming day. We have been so caught up in the preparations for gifting and gatherings that we have pushed aside the wonder of what you have done for all Creation. In the midst of the busyness we sometimes miss what it is all about—you coming to earth—Emmanuel—God with us. Help us to relax and listen, instead of rush and shout. May the songs of the angels, the surprise of the shepherds, and the joy of the holy family become part of our preparations and our lives. Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts and our spirits to again hear the old, old story, spoken by new voices in new ways. Remind us again of your never-changing love for us. Help us hear anew your promises of hope and salvation and love as we sing our familiar carols. Let us ponder in our hearts what all this means for the world, for us. Prepare us to serve you by serving others. This night we offer this prayer of our hearts to you, gracious God. Amen

Scripture: Luke 1:39-56

Video: "Ava Maria"

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Carol: "I Wonder as I Wander" #225

Scripture: Luke 2:8-14

Video: "Little Drummer Boy"

Lighting of Christ Candle

Prayer

Carol: "We Three Kings" #233

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

Offering (*Our offering tonight will be directed to aid those affected by the storms in Puerto Rico*)