

# May Memorial Baptist Church



## *Christmas Eve*

*December 24, 2022      5:00 p.m.*

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### The Community Gathers for Worship

Prelude

Stuart Joerg and Sandra Parker

*Christmas Medley*

Welcome

Michael Edwards

\* Call to Worship

Laura Edwards, Brantley Turner, and Graham Bilthuis

The impossible is about to happen in a stable.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has the light shined!**

This is the evening when creation stood still and held its breath,  
for God was doing the most unbelievable, dangerous thing.

**This is the evening when God embraced humanity  
from the inside, as one of us, from birth to death.**

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
full of grace and truth.**

**Amen!**

\* Carol No. 89

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELIS

\* Invocation

Brooke Fredette

Let us pray:

**We praise you, God of Christmas, that in Jesus Christ you have come  
to us to speak your Word of love and life.**

Touch us with unearthly joy, like the singing of angels;

**Fill us with wonder, like the eyes of children;**

Teach us to humble ourselves before you, like the worshiping magi.

**May our journey to the manger be only the beginning of a  
lifetime of devotion to Jesus our Christ.**

**Amen.**

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jackie Lindsey, Amanda and Sarah Seaman

Reading (based on Isaiah 9)

...ending with: Glory to God in the highest!

**Alleluia! Amen!**

Sung Response

*Light a Candle Bright and Tall*

Light a candle bright and tall,  
for the Christ we greet today.

Christ has come, our all in all.

With the angels, let us say:

Shine within our hearts today

Come, O Christ, to us, we pray.

Prayers of Intercession

Tyer and Zachary Bilthuis, Carlisle Davidhizar, Kay Firda,  
Blair Fredette, Michael Edwards, and Payton Sanudo

## The Community Proclaims the Word of God

Anthem

Adult Choir

*Worship Christ the Newborn King*

A Ruler from Bethlehem

*Micah 5:2-5a*

Solo

*All is Well*

Gwen Hagen  
Sharon Labons

The Righteous Reign of the Coming King

*Isaiah 11:1-9*

Solo

*The Little Drummer Boy*

Juston Sanudo  
Scott Richards

The Birth of Jesus

*Luke 2:1-7*

Solo

*The Rose E'er Blooming*

Maryvel Firda  
Sophie Edwards

The Shepherds and Angels

*Luke 2:8-20*

Solo

*Someday*

Andy Firda  
Sharon Labons

Homily

Michael Edwards

## The Community Responds to the Word of God

\* Carol No. 103

*Away in a Manger*

## The Community Gathers Around the Lord's Table

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Prayer (ending with the Lord's Prayer)

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Communion Hymn No. 86

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

Prayer after Communion

Michael Edwards

# The Community Goes Forth to Serve God

\* Carol No. 91

STILLE NACHT

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

\* Benediction

Anna Edwards and Carlisle Davidhizar

On the Eve of Christmas:  
**Hatred will vanish.**

On the Eve of Christmas:  
**Violence will be gone.**

On the Eve of Christmas:  
**The earth will flourish.**

On the Eve of Christmas:  
**Love will be born.**

When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person  
*it is Christmas.*

When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love  
*it is Christmas.*

When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes  
*it is Christmas.*

When the spirit of revenge dies in me  
*it is Christmas.*

When in my heart I no longer want to stay apart  
*it is Christmas.*

\* Blessing

Michael Edwards

\* Postlude

Stuart Joerg

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\* Please stand as you are able.