



**Rev. Steven H. Rhodes**

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First Presbyterian Church  
1063 Circle Drive  
DeFuniak Springs, Fl 32435

# CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION SERVICE

December 24, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.

MUSICAL CELEBRATION

WELCOME

PRELUDE

What Child is This

CAROL #249 (all verses)

O Come All Ye faithful

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE.....Alannah Anderson and Family

## THE LIGHT OF CHRIST JOHN 1:1-5

For anyone who has walked in darkness, a new light has dawned!

**P: O come, let us adore him!**

For anyone who has ever felt forgotten, a new light has dawned!

**P: O come, let us adore him!**

For anyone whose patience has been put to the test, a new light has dawned!

**P: O come, let us adore him!**

For anyone in search of the way, the truth, and the life, a new day has dawned!

**P: O come, let us adore him!**

## TONIGHT, WE LIGHT ALL THE CANDLES TO THE GLORY OF CHRIST'S BIRTH.

As we light the *first candle*, we celebrate the hope that transcends our hurting world. The *second candle* celebrates the love that tears the veil of hostility and division. The *third candle* celebrates the joy that lightens our hearts. And we light the *fourth candle*, to celebrate the promise of peace that will dry every tear. The flame of the *Christ candle* opens our eyes to God's light, as we celebrate and worship Christ, our newborn King.

**PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, tonight we join the angelic choir proclaiming glory to God in the highest. In a world where people seek the perfect gift to give, we rejoice because you've already given it! As you lit up the sky that first Christmas night, continue to illuminate our world with your presence. We pray on this Christmas Eve that you will guide our every step, hear our every prayer and delight in every praise as we come and worship Christ, our newborn Lord and Savior. Amen

CONGREGATION RESPONSE

**Lift up your eyes and see the light surround you**

**With radiant hope, illuminate the night.**

**Lift up your voice and sing, let the earth and heaven ring.**

**Lift up your eyes and see the everlasting light.**

READING

Isaiah 11:1-9

CAROL (bulletin, all verses)

Gentle Mary Laid her Child

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

READING

Matthew 1:18-23 & Luke 2:1-5

CAROL #278

Angels We Have Heard On High

MESSAGE

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: *Lift up your hearts*

**Unison: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: *Let us pray...*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

CAROL #265 (all verses) The First Nowell

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

CAROL #253 (all verses) Silent Night! Holy Night!

We will sing as we light our candles.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - 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.**

POSTLUDE

GENTLE MARY LAID HER CHILD

1. Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger:  
Such a Babe in such a place, can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race, who have found His favor.
2. Angels sang about His birth; Wise men sought and found Him;  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around Him:  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing.
3. Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;  
He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger:  
Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!