

# VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 7 P.M. AT WESTFIELD CHURCH

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### INTROIT

*The Sussex Carol*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Do not be afraid; for see—  
I am bringing you good news of great joy!  
**To us is born this day in the city of David  
a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.**

This will be a sign for you:  
you will find a child wrapped in cloth  
and lying in a manger.

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace!**

### \*CAROL

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
2. **True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal,**  
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;  
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

5  
O come ye, O come ye, to Beth - le - hem.  
**lo, he shuns not the Vir - gin's womb;**  
O sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!  
Je - sus to thee be all glo - ry giv'n

0  
Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
**Son of the Fath - er, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed;**  
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh a - ppearing

4  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

9  
O come, let us a - dore him Christ the Lord.

0 What child is this who laid to rest on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing

19 Whom an - gels greet with an - themssweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing

27 This, this is Christ the King whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing

Haste, haste to bring Him laud the babe, the Son of Mar - y

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

For those walking in darkness, a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting hope.**

For those living in fear and dread, a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting peace.**

For those living in hopelessness and despair, a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting joy.**

For those living in loneliness, a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.**

Tonight, we light all the candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ. The candles of hope, peace, love, and joy all remind us that Christ is our light and the source of eternal hope, ever-lasting peace, boundless love, and endless joy. The Christ candle reminds us that God's perfect gift was sent to us that we might have life abundant and everlasting.

**Joy to the world and peace on earth.**

**Let us worship Christ, the newborn King.**

### BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmas Eve our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God in the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this sanctuary glad with our carols of praise:

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity within the Church, and especially for our country, our state, for Killingly and for this church, Westfield.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

**Gracious God, tonight as we gather together to conclude our Advent journey, we celebrate that a new light has dawned. A child is born and that child is our light and the source of our joy. He brings hope into the world, and the promise of peace on earth. He is love incarnate, love divine, and we thank you dear Lord for this, the most perfect gift imaginable. Joy to the world! Christ is born! Amen.**

**\*CAROL**

*Once in Royal David's City*

IRBY



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2. **He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,**  
3. Je - sus is our childhood's pat-tern; day by day, like us he grew;  
4. **And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem-ing love;**



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed;  
**and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall.**  
he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and smiles like us he knew;  
**for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heaven a - bove;**



Ma - ry, lov - ing moth - er mild, — Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
**With the poor, the scorned, the low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.**  
and he feel - eth for our sad - ness, and he shar - eth in our glad - ness.  
**and he leads his chil - dren on - to the place where he is gone.**





**FIRST LESSON**

Micah 5:2-5a

*The King is coming and will usher in a reign of justice and peace.*

**CAROL**

*The First Noël*

(st. 1)

The first Noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.

**SECOND LESSON**

*Luke 1:26-35, 38*

*An angel announces to Mary that she will give birth to a son.*

**THIRD LESSON**

*Luke 2:1-7*

*Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.*

**CAROL**

*The First Noël*

(st. 2)

They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. Refrain

**FOURTH LESSON**

*Luke 2:8-16*


*Shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger*

**CAROL**

*The First Noël*

(st. 3)

And by the light of that same star  
three Wise Men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. Refrain



**FIFTH LESSON**

Matthew 2:1-11

*The Wise Men follow a star to find Jesus, the King of the Jews.*

**\*SIXTH LESSON**

John 1:1-14

*John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God,  
we confess that often we find darkness  
more comfortable than light.  
We confess that we find your Good News  
frightening and unsettling,  
especially when we consider its demands  
as well as promises.  
We confess that Christmas  
has become more to us  
than the birthday of the Christ,  
partly because we do not want a Christ-child  
in our lives or in our world.  
Forgive us, break us,  
bend us, remake us.  
Give us the courage to lay ourselves open  
to the wonder and healing of your coming.  
Be born again into our world,  
be born again into our hearts and lives.  
Hear now our silent and personal confessions  
as we prepare ourselves for your nativity. Amen**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God's light is present in this world.  
Present in the Christ child,  
born to lead us out of darkness.  
Present in the star,  
in all that guides us to love.  
**God's light is in the world,  
and the darkness did not overcome it.  
God's grace is in the world,  
and our mis-steps will not overcome it.  
We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**



# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister: In this holy season,  
All: be with us, O Lord.

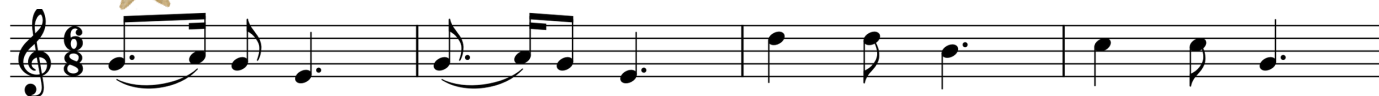
*The Lord's Prayer*  
A. Malotte

## SHARING OF THE LIGHT

*O Holy Night*  
Wherever you are this night,  
light a candle to shatter the darkness.

### \*CAROL

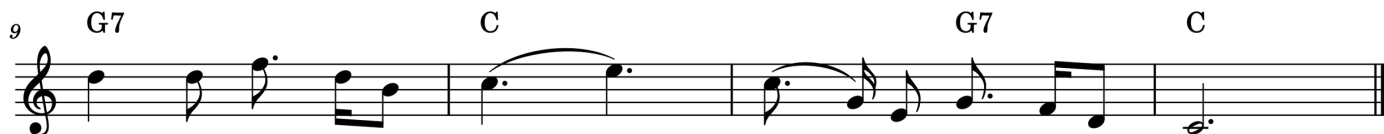
*Silent Night*  
Stille Nacht



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night all is calm, all is bright  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herdsquake at the sight.  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, son of God, love's pure light,  
4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won - drous star, lend thy light;

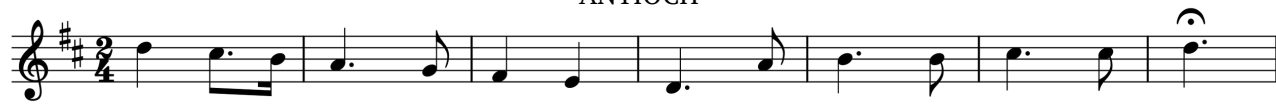


Round yon vir - gin, mot - her and child, ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild.  
Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - jah.  
radi - ant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace.  
with the ang - els let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;



Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
Christ the sav - ior is born, Christ the sav - ior is born.  
Je - sus, Lord at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord at thy birth.  
Christ the Sa - vior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

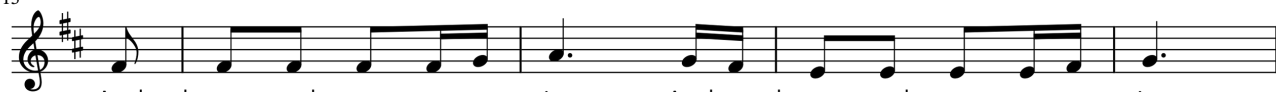
**\*CAROL**  
*Joy to the World*  
ANTIOCH



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re - ceive her King;  
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their songs em - ploy;  
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the ground;  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions prove



Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
He comes to make his bles - sings flow  
the glo - ries of his ri - ghteous - ness,



And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture sing,  
Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy,  
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
and won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his love,



And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
far as far as the curse is found!  
and won - ders wo - nders of his love!

**BENEDICTION**

**JOIN US FOR SUNDAY  
MORNING WORSHIP  
10AM\***

**\*PLEASE NOTE, ONLINE WORSHIP ONLY ON DEC. 29.**





## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

We LOVE kids at Westfield. Children are welcome to stay through the whole service. If your child is more active, relax! We believe God put the wiggles and giggles in children. Don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of worship. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

## THE REV. DR. JONATHAN CHAPMAN



The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Chapman graduated from Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in May 2019 with his Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Witness and Proclamation. His capstone work, *The Year of Mark*, received the People's Choice Award among his cohort. While at Candler for his Master of Divinity (May, 2010), he was active with the Office of Worship, and was awarded the Hoyt Hickman Award for Outstanding Liturgical Scholarship. Jonathan is a 2007 Congregational Fellow and 2006 Undergraduate Fellow with The Fund for Theological Education. He graduated from Elon University in 2007 with a degree in Religious Studies. At Elon, he was selected as a Leadership Fellow and was awarded the W. L. Monroe Christian Education and Personality Award in the 2007. While at Elon he joined Elon Community Church, United Church of Christ, the congregation in which he was ordained.

Jonathan joined Westfield in October of 2012 and was officially installed as Pastor and Teacher in May of 2013, presiding over its revitalization. In October of 2022, he celebrated a decade with Westfield.

He was selected to be a part of the Next Generation Leadership Initiative, a program sponsored by the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ that works with young clergy committed to parish ministry through a decade-long relationship. Dr. Chapman consults with congregations on a variety of topics ranging from revitalization to worship to marketing their churches. He married his husband, Greg (pastor of Enfield Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in Enfield, CT), in December of 2014 at Westfield. Jonathan is an award-winning stained glass artist.

Rev. Jonathan's Onsite Hours are Monday-Thursday, 9am-12pm. His additional work day is Sunday, when he is available by appointment. His days off are Friday and Saturday.

Find time with Rev. Jon by scanning the QR code or going to [calendly.com/revjonchapman](https://calendly.com/revjonchapman)

Contact info for Rev. Jonathan:  
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(m) 770-265-2171 (text ok)  
(e) [jon@westfielducc.org](mailto:jon@westfielducc.org)



**Ministers**  
**Pastor**  
**Director of Welcome**  
**Director of Music**  
**Director of Children**  
**Church Administrator**  
**Facilities Caretaker**

**All of the Congregation**  
**The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Chapman**  
**Kevin Williams**  
**Sue Theroux**  
**Donna Bartholomew**  
**Jessica Payette**  
**Michelle Plasse**