

HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

7:00 P.M.

DECEMBER 24, 2009

Prelude: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*Manz
Joy to the WorldGehrke
O Come all Ye FaithfulGehrke

WelcomePastor Wesley Oden

Lighting of the Christ Candle.....The Stewart Family

*Processional Carol 121 *O Come, All Ye Faithful!*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 (page 683)David Brubaker
Christ's Birth and Kingdom are Foretold by Isaiah
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

*Carol 109 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Scripture Reading: Micah 5:1-5a (page 922)Pastor Cindy Oden
The Prophet Micah Foretells the Glory of Little Bethlehem

Choir Carol: *In the Bleak Midwinter*arr. Whitworth

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 (page 1012)Scott Wade
The Angel Gabriel Comes to the Virgin Mary

Ministry in Music: *Magnificat*Getty & Townend
Kaylan Buteyn, Alison Young, Amanda Cox

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 (page 955)Pastor Laurie Smalley
The Angel Appears to Joseph

*Carol 136 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-7 (page 1014)Marilyn Kerr
St. Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus

Choir Carol: *Away in a Manger*arr. Parker

Christmas Eve Offering / PrayerPastor Jon Cole

Offertory: *Gesu Bambino*arr. Hayes/Cox
Rachael Zoller, cello

*This year's Christmas Eve offering will be designated to assist the
LaGonave, Haiti hospital renovation project, to assist Wellspring Ministries,
and to assist our Houghton Wesleyan Church Food Pantry.*

*Carol 117 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:8-20 (page 1014).....Krista Roorbach
The Shepherds Go to the Manger

Ministry in Music: *Ding, Dong, Merrily on High*arr. Alwes
Alison, Debbie, and Paul Young; Amanda & Mike Cox

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-11 (page 956).....Mim Case
The Wise Men are Led by the Star to Jesus

Choir Carol: *Still, Still, Still*arr. Luboff

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-14 (page 683)..... Doug Roorbach
The Word Becomes Flesh and Dwells Among Us

Ministry in Music: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*Sara Groves
Kaylan Buteyn, Alison Young, Amanda Cox, Emily Buteyn, John Buteyn

Meditation: Pastor Wesley Oden

Candle Lighting Ceremony

The central candle of the Advent wreath represents Christ, the light of the world. During the service, the light from the Christ Candle has been carried to candles along the center aisle. During the singing of *Silent Night*, those who are nearest the center aisle are asked to light their candle from the aisle candles.

Then all those who worship will pass the light, holding the lit candles upright and tilting the unlit candle to receive the flame. Ushers will bring the light from the Christ Candle to the balcony. When all the candles are lit, we will stand for prayer and ask God to help us be Christ's light in the world. Then we will join together in singing *Joy to the World*. The texts of *Silent Night* and *Joy to the World* can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

Benediction

Ringling of the Bells

Postlude: *Variations on Noel (Moderato and Presto)*Dupre

Organist: Eileen DeBoer Acolytes: Ryan Pelletier & Chase Rangel

As you leave, please extinguish your candle
and place it in the proper receptacle in the foyer,
but let the light of Christ's love burn on in your heart.

***May God bless you with
a very merry Christmas.
Our Sunday Morning Worship Service
on December 27th will begin at 10am.
There will be no Sunday School
or evening service on December 27th.***

Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

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.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.