

Order of Worship Service, December 27, 2020 11:00 am

First Sunday After Christmas

PRELUDE

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks— Thomas Keesecker

A CALL TO BE PRESENT AT THE MANGER

(Pastor: normal font **Quartet: bold font**)

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, the flying cloud, the frosty light;

Ring, happy bells, across the snow: The year is going, let it go;

Ring out the false, ring in the true!

Ring out the grief that saps the mind, for those that here we see no more,

Ring out the feud of rich and poor,

Ring in redress to all humankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause, and ancient forms of party strife;

Ring in the nobler modes of life, with sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin, the faithless coldness of the times;

Ring out false pride in place and blood, The civic slander and the spite;

Ring in the love of truth and right, Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease, Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;

Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant one and free, The larger heart, the kindlier hand;

Ring out the darkness of the land,

Ring in the Christ that is to be.

—adapted from a Christmas poem by Alfred Lord Tennyson

CONFESSION AND COMMITMENT

(Pastor: normal font **Quartet: bold font**)

Led by a star, a golden star

The youngest star, an olden star

Here the kings and the shepherds are, a kneeling on the ground.

What did they come to the inn to see?

God in the Highest, and this is He.

baby asleep on His mother's knee

and with her kisses crowned.

Now is the earth a dreary place, a troubled place, a weary place.

Peace has hidden her lovely face and turned in tears away.

Yet the sun, through the war cloud,

sees babies asleep on their mothers' knees,

while there are love and home and these,

there shall be Christmas day.

A

Alfred Joyce Kilmer

Sung Response

#118 Glory to God While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Bible readings: Luke 2:21-38 John 1:1-9 Jennifer Weiman

SUNG RESPONSE TO BIBLE READINGS

##128 Glory to God Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Message SCOTT Light Worth Waiting For!

Anthem

Christmas Joy

Text- Howard Thurman; music, Mark Schweizer

WELCOME

Intercessory Prayer SCOTT—(with comments by people on FB DEANNA will read these in spaces of silence)...conclude with the Lord's Prayer and Sung Response.....

SUNG RESPONSE

#124 Glory to God Still, Still, Still

OFFERTORY

The Stars Looked Down

Poem: G. K. Chesterton; music, Mark Schweizer

Emma WitbolsFeugen, soprano

Prayer of Dedication

**We come believing in our emptiness,
believing that we will never have enough.
We come fearful of sharing,
fearful of losing our tenuous grip on security,
fearful of touching and knowing the pain of others.
We come overwhelmed by the pandemic,
overwhelmed by the suffering of people near and far,
overwhelmed by the endless tales of senseless violence, racism greed, and death.
We come aching from the weight of the responsibility,
aching from the chilling challenge of knowing our abundance,
aching from the gnawing awareness that we have much to share.
We come clinging to our meager money;
bless it, and us; break it and us; share it, and us. Amen.**

#113 Glory to God Angels We Have Heard on high

Blessing

SUNG BENEDICTION RESPONSE

#146 Glory to God Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Postlude

In the Bleak Midwinter— Gustav Holst, arr. John Purifoy