

“Blue Christmas” Service

December 20, 2018 - 7:00 PM

We Approach God

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

People: The Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth.

Leader: In him was life, and that life was the light of all.

People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to extinguish it.

OPENING PRAYER (Responsive)

Leader: We look for light but find darkness, for brightness, but walk in gloom. We grope like those who have no eyes; we stumble at noon as in the twilight.

All: You are the light of the world; be light in our darkness, O Christ.

Leader: If I say, “Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,” even the darkness is not dark to you. O God, the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

All: You are the light of the world; be light in our darkness, O Christ.

Leader: Blessed be your name, O God, forever. You reveal deep and mysterious things; You are light and in you is no darkness. Our darkness is passing away, already the true light is shining.

All: You are the light of the world; be light in our darkness, O Christ. Amen.

HYMN #115 “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Stories of Light – Words of God’s Promises

Genesis 1:1-5 “The Light of Creation”

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

All: “Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

HYMN #89 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” vs.1, 2

Exodus 13:17-22 “The Light of Exodus

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

All: “Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

HYMN #89 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” vs. 3, 4

Isaiah 60:1-3 “The Light of the Prophets”

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

All: “Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

HYMN: #92 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1, 2

Luke 1:46-55: “The Light of Hope and New Birth”

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

All: “Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

HYMN #138 “What Child Is This?”

Responding and Going Forth

PRAYER

Invitation to Light Candles: (All who wish may come forward to light a candle from the Christ candle in memory of someone or something or as a sign of hope.)

TIME OF SILENCE

HYMN #135 “Silent Night”

BENEDICTION



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