

Wellesley Village Church

Family Christmas Eve Service



Luke 2:10-11

4:00 PM

December 24, 2024

Welcome to Worship on This Holy and Exciting Night

Let us prepare to worship the newborn King

To help us tell the story, make sure you have a star,
which can be found at the ends of the pews.

We Welcome All

This service is for families and especially for children including wiggles, giggles, messes, and cries. If you need a quieter, child-centered space in which to be together, families may use the Family Worship Room, located just outside the sanctuary.

Dear Christmas Eve Worshippers,

We extend to you this Christmas Eve a welcome as broad as the outstretched arms of God. Thank you for being here to experience the unfolding of God's love come to earth.

Tonight we experience the marvel and mystery of God-with-us, Emmanuel.

Lowly shepherds, merchant innkeepers, and a young girl with her betrothed first experienced that extraordinary gift. This holy story reveals that God desires to be at home among everyday people, including us.

We're glad that Village Church is your home for this holy night. We hope that anytime you are looking for a church home, you will feel welcome here. For more information or to connect with us, please scan the QR code in the pew.

May God bless you with hope, peace, joy, and love now and in the new year.

Merry Christmas!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sarah".

~ Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter, Sr. Pastor, on behalf of the members
and staff of Wellesley Village Church

O Come Let Us Adore Him!

*Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE	Christmas Medley	Kristjon Imperio
WELCOME & INVOCATION		Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH		Jade Hargrave

One: Come, into this sacred place, into this sacred night,
into this sacred story!

All: O come, let us adore him!

One: All Advent long, we have waited for hope,

All: And hope has come in a tiny baby!

One: All Advent long, we have waited for peace,

All: And the Prince of Peace is born!

One: All Advent long, we have waited for joy,

All: And now the angels proclaim the good news!

One: All Advent long, we have waited for love,

All: And love has come, Emmanuel, God-with-us!

One: The Advent candles of hope, peace, joy, and love are burning.

All: Tonight, we light the Christ candle.

(Watch and see as the Christ candle is lit)

One: Christ is born!

All: O come, let us adore him!

*CAROL "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him, born the King of Angels.

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, o come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;

Glory to God, glory in the highest. *Refrain*

YOUTH CHOIRS

"Will We Know Him?"
Village Children's Choir
Dr. Kevin McDonald, Director of Music

Don Besig

"LISTEN TO CHRISTMAS"

*Adapted from "Listen to Christmas," by Judy Gattis Smith.
Produced by special arrangement with Contemporary Drama Service.*

Please remain seated for all hymns during the pageant.

INTRODUCTION — Gabriel Comes to Mary

Luke 1:26-38

SCENE 1 — Shepherds on the Hillside

Luke 2:1-14

CAROL "The First Nowell"

**The first Nowell 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: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

**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***

SCENE 2 — The Manger

Luke 2:15-19

CAROL "Away in a Manger"

**Away in the manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

CAROL “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect Light.

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Sounds through the earth and skies. *Refrain*

FINAL SCENE

CAROL REPRISE “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*Gifts may be placed in the manger during the Carol.
Checks may be made payable to Wellesley Village Church.
You may donate online by scanning this QR code →*

Thank you for your generosity.



*CAROL "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angel host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, off-spring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings,
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

INVITATION TO SHARE THE LIGHT

CAROL "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, shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories streams from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, loves pure light (*lift your candle*)
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

SENDING

One: Christ is born!

All: Let us go in Hope.

One: Christ's love dwells in our hearts,

All: Let us go in Peace.

One: Christ's light shines in the world,

All: Let us go in Joy!

*CAROL "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.**

**Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**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.**

Benediction

Rev. Sarah S. Butter

Merry Christmas!

POSTLUDE

†††

Thank you for joining us tonight!

Joe Morray, Moderator
Candace Sutcliffe, Vice Moderator
Kathy Schleyer, Immediate Past Moderator

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sarchet Butter ~ Senior Pastor

Associate Pastors

The Rev. Pam Emslie
The Rev. Stacy Swain

Pastoral Residents

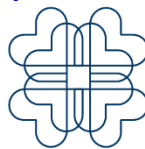
Megan Strouse
The Rev. Carlos Aoun

Ministry Directors

Michaela McDonald – Children's Ministry
Dr. Kevin McDonald – Music Director, Dir. of Youth Music
Kristjon Imperio, currently Dir. Of Worship & Organist;
as of 1/1/25: Director of Worship & Development Assoc.,
kristjon@wellesleyvillagechurch.org, (phone: (781) 577-0506)
Mingyeong Son, Chapel Worship Musician
Meg Sweeting – Church Administrator
Jade Hargrave – Middle School & Confirmation

Support Staff

Christine Toppin – Communication & Worship Support
Sharon Kuhn – Administrative Assistant
Gerardo Ortiz - Sexton
Gladys Murillo - Sexton



WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH

Congregational • United Church of Christ

Choose Love. Make it Real.

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