



CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS EVE
December 24, 2007, 7:00 p.m.



“Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them...the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people...to you is born this day a Savior...Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth, peace’...” “What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of the world.”

(Selections from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 2, and the Gospel of John, chapter 1)

The Community Gathers to Worship God

Prelude arr. Cherwien
Tocatto on “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

Welcome to First Christian Church Jerry Basye

*Passing the Peace of Christ

*Song of Gathering 119 (v.1)
“O Come, O Come”

*Call to Worship Bob Giffin
Leader: The grace of God has appeared among us. A child has been born, bringing god’s salvation.

**People: We have seen anew the light of God’s love.
How splendid is God’s gift to us!**

Reader: Sing to our God a joyous new song. Sing to God, all nations of the earth.

**People: Great is our God and greatly to be praised.
Ascribe to God the glory that is due.**

Reader: Let the Heavens be glad as the earth rejoices. Glory to God in the highest heaven.

**People: The child of Bethlehem will help us know God.
We gather to contemplate what God has done.**

*Opening Hymn 144
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Advent Wreath & Christ Candle Lighting Frandsen Family

Unison Prayer

God of hope and joy, we sing for joy because you have given us hope and joy. Our world is full of problems, yet the coming of the Messiah is reason for hope. So we gather to worship. Give us wisdom as we go to our places in daily life. Teach us and guide us as we deal with the problems of our world. We give you thanks for the hope born in our midst. Amen.

The Community Proclaims the Word of God

First Lesson Melissa Bowers
Isaiah 9:2-7 O.T. 780

Second Lesson Erica Collins
John 1:1-14 N.T. 111

Anthem Combined Choir

Gospel Sally Haynes
Luke 2:1-20 N.T. 71

Meditation Jerry Basye

Third Lesson Sally Haynes
Psalm 96 O.T. 677

The Community Responds to the Word of God

Prayers of the People Jerry Basye

Organ Prayer Response
(Elders and Deacons may move to the rear of the sanctuary during the prayer response.)

The Community Shares in Christ’s Life

Sharing of Gifts
Invitation to Offering Al Gosney
Offertory “I Saw Three Ships” arr. Page
*Doxology 46

*Prayer of Dedication Al Gosney

Celebration of Holy Communion
Invitation to Holy Communion Jerry Basye

Words of Institution
Hymn of Communion 147

“Away in a Manger”

Prayers for the Elements Al Gosney
Linda Hoover

Partaking of the Bread and Cup
(All are invited to partake of the bread and the cup as the trays are passed.)

The Community Receives Christ’s Light And Glorifies God

*Sharing the Light of Christ Jerry Basye

As the light is passed to the congregation, kindly receive the light and pass it to the person seated next to you. For safety reasons, please tip the unlighted candle to the lighted candle. When we sing the chorus of each stanza of Silent Night, join the minister in raising your candle to the glory of God. After the prayer, extinguish your candle and leave it the box at the door as you depart. God bless you, and we wish you a joyful Christmas.

*Hymn “Silent Night” 145

*Christmas Blessing Bob Giffin

*Bell Anthem “Silent Night”

*Postlude “Away in a Manger” arr. Kevener
(Piano, Anita Grigsby & Flute, Kari Wiss)



SERVING TONIGHT –December 24, 2007

Organist: Anita Grigsby

Flute: Kari Wiss

Elders: Al Gosney and Linda Hoover

Worship Leaders:

Bob Giffin-Church of the Nazarene

Melissa Bowers-First Presbyterian

Erica Collins-Jesus Saves Pentecostal

Sally Haynes-First United Methodist

Jerry Basye-First Christian



Ecumenical Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2007

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

101 E Gay St

Warrensburg, MO 64093

660-747-6815

Our Mission

We are an open and welcoming community that God calls and the Holy Spirit empowers to:

- *share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all ages*
- *explore and express a growing faith*
- *equip believers for ministries which expand the kingdom of God*