



First Reformed Church

Schenectady, New York

Virtual Christmas Eve Worship 2020

*Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love Divine,
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and Angels gave the sign.
- Christina Rossetti*

Music of the Season ~ 8:45pm

Corine Salon, Director of Music
Max Caplan, Church Musician

Marey Bailey, Heather & Andy Chestnut,
Joe Doolittle, Dan Ertel, Dan Ipsen, Kitty &
George Trimarco, Carol Troost, Kathy Peterson,
Faith Potter, Kate Rose, Rachael Rose,
Christine Boger-Walthers, singers

Traditional Carols

Coventry Carol

arr by Martin Shaw

Lully, Lulla, thou little tiny child, By by, lully lullay
O sisters too, How may we do For to preserve this day?
This poor youngling for whom we do sing
Bye-bye, lulle, lullay.

Herod the king, in his raging, Charged he hath this day
His men of might, In his own sight, All young children to slay

That woe is me, Poor child for thee! And ever morn and day,
For thy parting Neither say nor sing By by Lully lullay.
Lully, Lulla, thou little tiny child, By by, lully lullay

What Child is This

16th Century English Ballad

What Child is this, who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is Sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, hast to bring Him laud, the Babe,
the Son of Mary!*

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
(*refrain*)

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh;
come one and all to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Lo How a Rose e're Blooming

Michael Praetorius

Lo how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, As those of old have sung
It came a flow'r-et bright, Amid the cold of winter
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, The Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright, She bore to us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

He is Born the Divine Christ Child

arr John Rutter
French Carol

Il est né le divin enfant, Jouez hautbois, résonnez musettes;
Chantons tous son avènement. Depuis plus de quatre mille ans
Nous le promettaient les prophètes,
depuis plus de quatre mille ans
Nous attendions cet heureux temps.

Born on earth the divine Christ Child
Oboes rejoice with bagpipes vying
Born on earth the divine Christ Child,
Sing to welcome the Savior mild

Ah! Such beauty and charm adore! Ah!
Such perfection of grace undying!
Ah! Such beauty and charm adore!
Promised us in days of yore!

There is no Rose

Hal Hobson

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu;
Alleluia.
For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space;
Res miranda.
By that rose we may well see
There be one God in persons three,
Paris forma.
Then leave we all this worldly mirth
And follow we this joyful birth;
Transeamus

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

arr Charles Wood
16th Century French tune

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing
Ding dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below let steeple bells be swungen,
And i-o, i-o, i-o, by priest and people sungen.
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!



Service of Worship ~ 9pm

Lynn Carman Bodden, Interim Senior Minister
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

GREETING AND WELCOME

The grace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER (*unison*)

**On this holy night, we feel you drawing
near, O God. We await the coming of your
light. Surprise us! Fill us with your
presence that we might offer the hope,
peace, joy and love that is Christ to a world
that waits in longing. Amen.**

INSTRUMENTAL CAROL

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7*

ANTHEM *On This Still and Quiet Night*
James Koerts

In manger bed he lies,
The glorious King of Light,
And all is calm as angels sing
On this still and silent night.

The shepherds humbly kneel;
How precious is the sight,
And Mary cradles Heaven's heir
On this still and silent night.

Beneath the stars so bright,
Her songs of love and praise
On this still and silent night,
Holy night!

Salvation's joy has come,
God's glory, our delight.
And now new hope to us is giv'n
On this still and silent night

SCRIPTURE *Luke 2:1-7*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

SCRIPTURE *Luke 2:8-14*

MEDITATION

OFFERTORY *O Holy Night*

*This year's Christmas offering will assist the
Schenectady County Reentry Program at the
Center for Community Justice.*

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'Til He appears and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His Gospel is Peace
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our
brother
And in His name, all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us Praise His Holy name
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim

PRAYERS

CAROL AND CANDLELIGHTING

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 stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born."**

**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.**

**Silent night, Holy night!
Wondrous Star, lend Thy light,
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.**

BENEDICTION

SUNG POSTLUDE *Joy to the World*

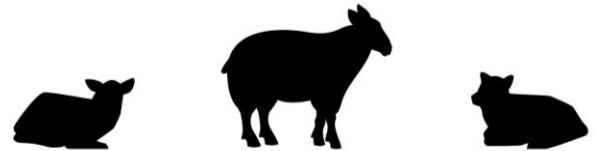
**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King:
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and
nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:
Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains**

**Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**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.**



The First Reformed Church is a welcoming and affirming congregation. We invite you to make us your church home and wish you a joyous Christmas and all a peaceful New Year!

The Chrismon ornaments are white and gold. You will see crosses, palms, fish, and the hand of God among other symbols of Christianity.

Cover Art By Kitty Trimarco.

To the glory of God and in loving memory of:

- *Hendrick & Patricia Arnold from Kip & Joanne Arnold*
- *Carolyn Russell from Kip & Joanne Arnold*
- *Joseph & Louise Kelley from Kip & Joanne Arnold*
- *William & Virginia Atherton from Peter Atherton*
- *My grandparents, Daniel & Elsie Hegeman Luyster by Marey Bailey*
- *My parents, Thomas and Martha Luyster Bailey by Marey Bailey*
- *Jean Kemp Bundy and Donna Bashor Bundy by David Bundy*
- *Our parents, Priscilla Carlson, Dan & Ethel Slabaugh from Mary & Daniel Carlson*
- *Sylvia & Dolph Ebeling, Lorraine Ebeling and Elyne Schulte by Scott Ebeling*
- *Rudolph & Therese Mahlberg, and Paul Erickson by the Erickson's*
- *Sam Croce by Marlene Risseeuw and the Erickson's*
- *My parents, Dr. Henry & Emily Nagamatsu from Nancy Farrell*
- *Merry Christmas from Marjorie Geiger*
- *Harold Lapham by his family*
- *In celebration of Dorothy Jeanette Linder's Bay Path University Occupational Therapy Class of 2021 Pinning*
- *Loved ones from Don & Marilyn Leach*
- *Joseph W. Lovell Jr. from all the family*
- *Clark & Marilyn Wemple from Sutton & Mark Wemple*
- *Frederic P. and Florence Reimer by their daughter, Florence*
- *Rick Reimer by his sister, Florence*
- *Dr. Robert E. Reed by his wife, Florence*
- *Our parents given by Richard & Kate Rose*
- *In honor of our Schenectady friends from Ellie & Gene Rowland*
- *Mary & Hans Stern from their children*
- *Daniel J. Thuener from Vernetta and family*
- *Donald Troost from Carol, Deborah & Matt*
- *Earle & Dena Van Heyningen from daughter, Carol Troost*
- *Robert C Wilkanowski and Nancy E Penfold, parents of Lynn Wilkanowski*
- *Glenn Winchester from his family and loved ones.*
- *Eugene Zeltmann, Donald & Elizabeth Craig, Corinne Craig from Susie, Laura, and John Zeltmann*
- *Our parents Alice & Russell Jones and Dr. Charles Assini by John and Carolyn Assini*
- *Carlton W. Dyer from his wife, Janice B. Dyer*
- *Warren D. and Ethel F. Barrett from their children, grandchildren & great grandson*

