

Monroe Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Christmas Eve Quiet Service

December 24, 2011

4:00 p.m.



Gathering Music

What Child Is This?
Will Duchon, piano

Welcome

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles Marian Schmitz and Joanne Hallstead
Call to Worship

Leader: I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

People: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among all the people!

Carol

Away in a Manger

Away in a Manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky look 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 'til morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord, Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Scripture

Isaiah 11:1-9

Silent Reflection

Musical Interlude

Night of Silence
Cady Gingras, vocalist

Kantor

The Gifts of the Congregation

Invitation

Liturgical Dance

Juliette Nealon and Hannah Halloran
The Gifts of the Congregation

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

Silent Reflection

Musical Interlude

O Christ-Child Sweet
Will Duchon, piano

Bach

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.
It came a flower 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 men a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

Scripture

Luke 2:1-19

Silent Reflection

Christmas Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

Silent Reflection

Christmas Meditation

Rev. John Collins

Silent Candle Lighting

*In the silence, the ushers will move down the aisles to light our candles.
Please pass the light to the person seated next to you.
Always tip the unlighted candle.*

Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the Everlasting Light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King and Peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may his His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord, Emmanuel

Christmas Blessing & Benediction

Parting Music

Sinfonia

Bach

Please extinguish your candle before exiting the Meetinghouse.

