

## EXPERIENCING THE STORY

GATHERING MUSIC

RINGING OF THE HOUR

MUSICAL MEDITATION *Gesu Bambino*

Phil Mullinax

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Rev. Jessica McDougald

† HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Hymn #103

*Warmth of Giving items may be placed under the tree at this time.*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The night we've been waiting for! Christmas Eve with lots of creative commotion! I'm glad we've gathered here to celebrate the season and to read again from the ancient prophets who talked of God's coming to them with salvation, mercy, and prosperity.

**We are expecting God to come among us in new ways;  
we are expecting creative holiness to be birthed right here!**

Ring the bells! Clap your hands! Our hearts rejoice.

**Make a circle. Light a fire. Sing a song of love.**

We know the stories of past miracles—a newborn baby cradled in a manger, a young mother, angels, and shepherds, too!

**We dream a future and we hope for joy—  
the joy of God birthed in us anew!**

Light the candles! Three purple ones for hope,  
peace, and truth; light the pink one for joy!

**Light the white one, too. Light the Christ candle, the one in the center:**

Christ is light for the world! Hallelujah! Tonight, we welcome the Christ Child.

LESSON

Isaiah 9:2

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 the dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

LESSON

John 1:1-5

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.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the king of Israel.*

LESSON

Luke 1:47-56

CAROL

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Bob Stillerman

SPECIAL MUSIC

*O Holy Night*

Phil Mullinax

LESSON

Luke 2:1-8

HYMN

*Away in a Manger*

*Away in a 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.*

LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

HOMILY

Rev. Bob Stillerman

† SHARING THE LIGHT

***Silent Night, Holy Night***

*During this hymn, we will share the light of Christ with one another. Please share the light with the person beside you until all have received the light. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright, and the unlit candle is tipped. All are invited to raise their candle high.*

***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.  
Glory 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, 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

Rev. Bob Stillerman

RECESSIONAL

***Joy to the World! The Lord is Come.***

***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.***

Connect:



Updates, Worship Info & Upcoming Events

# MILLBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH



Advent 2024: A Millbrook Story  
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service  
December 24, 2024