

**The Celebration of Christmas Eve**  
**Creekside and Goshen City Church of the Brethren**  
Monday, December 24, 2007 7:00 p.m.

Ponder long the glorious mystery  
breathe, in awe, that God draws near; hear again the angels' message,  
see the Lamb of God appear. God's own Word assumes our nature:  
Son of God in swaddling bands; Light of light, and God eternal held in Mary's gentle hands.

PRELUDE

\*PRESENTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 212 (Blue)

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 197 (Blue)

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

\*INVOCATION PRAYER

GOSHEN CITY CHOIR

*"What is This Lovely Fragrance?"*

H. Hopson

WORDS OF THE PROPHET

Isaiah 9b, 6-7

HYMN NO. 208 (Blue)

*"Love Came Down at Christmas"*

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:1-20

CREEKSIDE CHOIR

*"African Alleluia"*

Benjamin Harlan

HYMN NO. 199 vs. 1-3 (Blue)

*"The First Noel"*

PONDERING A WONDER

*"The Cross in the Manger"*  
by Ann Weems

CHOIR

*"Helpless and Hungry"*

CONGREGATION HYMN NO. 215 (Blue)

*"What Child is This"*

(Choir and congregation sing together on verse 3.)

MEDITATION

**"Christmas Zeal"**

COMBINED CHOIRS

*"The Joy of Christmas"*

Van Denman Thompson

**The Sacrament of Communion**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

O Lord of light and love, you gave us the gift of Jesus, your only Son, that we may have power to become your children through him. He existed before the world was called into being, he was born of a humble virgin, lying in a manger, and he walked the earth as a man. He became poor, so that by his poverty we might become rich; he humbled himself that we might be exalted; he gave us peace and joy when we were without hope and without God. Therefore with the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth, we celebrate the birth of our Savior and we sing with joy.  
Amen.

\*HYMN NO. 318 (Blue)

*"Joy to the World"*

THE INVITATION

Isaiah 55:1-2

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (unison)

**His birth we celebrate. His death we proclaim.  
His resurrection we declare. His coming we await.**

THE AFFIRMATION (responsively)

One: The bread, which we break, is the communion of the body of Christ.

**All: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the same loaf.**

One: The cup for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

**All: The cup, which we drink, is our participation in the blood of Christ.**

COMMUNION

(You may eat the bread and drink the cup as you are served.)

No. 471 (Blue)

*"Eat This Bread"*

No. 463 (Blue)

*"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

**Candle Lighting Service**

PROCLAMATION OF THE LIGHT

\*HYMN (back of bulletin)

*"Silent Night"*

POSTLUDE

\*Please stand as you are able.

Bulletins may be recycled in the baskets located in gathering area.

## **Worship Participants**

### **Choir Directors**

Steve Bowers, Goshen City Church of the Brethren Choir  
Rosanna McFadden, Creekside Church of the Brethren Choir

### **Pianist**

David Gilliland

### **Organist**

Marilee Gilliland

### **Acolyte**

Noel Zak

### **Sound Engineer**

Brian Arnold

### **Graphics Operator**

Gary Arnold

### **Scripture Readers**

Shelly Randall and Gary Haney

### **Pastors**

David Bibbee and Carol-Spicher-Waggy

## **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."

CCLI Song #4629513

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