

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BARRINGTON
December 19, 2021



Fourth Sunday of Advent
Waiting to Be Touched by Mystery

ORDER OF SERVICE

December 19, 2021

PRELUDE

The Shepherds at the Manger (In Sweet Joy) – Franz Liszt
Still, Still, Still (A Christmas Berceuse)- Arranged by Joseph. M. Martin

Grace Lee

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP and LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Karla Close

One: In Advent we watch and wait for Christ's coming.

Many: We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

One: Today we light one candle in hope. We light another for peace. The pink one we light in joy. And the fourth candle we light with love.

(Congregation sings while four candles are lit.)

Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

One: In the Babe of Bethlehem we see God's love;

Many: Divine Love has taken on human flesh.

One: God of hope, God of peace,

Many: God of joy, and God of love,

One: Teach us how to love one another.

Many: May we be reflections of your light in the world.

One: God of promise, God of love,

All: into our darkness come.

*HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#171

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25

Karla Close

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. ²⁰As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²²Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled: ²³*Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, And they will call him, Emmanuel.* ^[a](*Emmanuel* means "God with us.") ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. ²⁵But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

One Voice:

The word of God, for the people of God.

Many Voices:

Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Please stand as we sing

#806

Glory to the Father, glory to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be, world without end. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Alayne McNulty

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Musical Offering

Ukrainian Bell Carol - Arranged by Joseph. M. Martin

DOXOLOGY

#808

*Praise God from who all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CALL to PRAYER

Christ Be Our Light

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

JOYS and CONCERNS of the CHURCH

One Voice: Gracious God

Many Voices: **Hear our Prayer**

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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.

HYMN

The Hands That First Held Mary's Child

#144

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

One Voice: May the words of my mouth,

All Voices: **And the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer. Amen.**
(Psalm 19)

SERMON

Waiting to Be Touched by Mystery

Rev. Carol McVetty

BENEDICTION

Rev. Carol McVetty

POSTLUDE AND
GREETING ONE ANOTHER*Postlude: A Christmas Gift - John Knowles Paine***ANNOUNCEMENTS****ADVENT DEVOTIONAL**

Week four of our advent daily devotional. "The Season of Almost" by Kate Bowler, can be found attached to this week's FLASH, or go to katebowler.com/advent.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

On Christmas Eve the waiting is over. In an hour of quiet beauty and wonder, we will welcome the Christ Child. Our theme; No More Waiting! Welcoming the Light. The traditional serviced of lessons and carols will include a reading of the story "The Manger is Empty" by Walter Wangerin. **Friday, December 24 at 6:00 p.m.**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

The Sunday after Christmas will continue our Christmas celebration. There will be lots of carol singing, and a special guest preacher. **The Rev. Dr. David Gregg**, Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago, will bring the message for the day. Rev. Gregg has been advising and walking with the Search Committee of CCB throughout this season of transition. He carries the welfare of this church close to his heart. You won't want to miss what he has to say.

NEED TO GET IN TOUCH? Pastor Carol's office hours are Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Pastor Carol can be reached through the church office at 847.381.1294 or she can be reached via email at revmcvetty@gmail.com. The church's pastoral and emergency care duties will also now be handled by Rev. Carol McVetty until the new Pastor begins in mid-January. If you are sick or need to speak with a pastor, don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Carol.