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Livestream: [Facebook.com/FCCWF](https://www.facebook.com/FCCWF)
[YouTube.com/First Christian Church Wichita Falls](https://www.youtube.com/First Christian Church Wichita Falls)
Live Service Audio: 940-322-1100

Christmas Eve – December 24, 2021 – 6:00 pm

THE GATHERING

Prelude	<i>Christmas Selections</i>	Nancy Smith, harp
Entrance of the Christ Candle		Claire Baer
*Carol	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	No. 148

***O come, all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

***Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

***Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

***Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born for our salvation,
Jesus to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

Lighting of the Advent Candles	Teresa & Larry Archambo
Unison Prayer:	

We thank you, God, for your gift of Jesus Christ to the entire world. We thank you that Christ's coming makes hope, peace, joy, and love possible for every person in every nation. Encourage us to do our part to bring goodwill and peace to our families, our churches, our neighborhoods, and the world. Now let your Spirit put us in touch with you,

the living God, through the words and music of this service, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Response

*When God Is a Child
Christ is a child, come down to the earth,
Bringing us eternal life with his birth.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.*

Christmas Greetings

Dr. Mark Bender

THE WORD

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Claire Baer

A Christmas Drama

Christmas Eve by Herbert Burtis

Special Music

O Holy Night – Adam

Sarah Cook

A Christmas Eve Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Dr. Mark Bender

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE TABLE

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Christmas Eve Communion Meditation

Dr. Mark Bender

Musical Meditation

There Is Faint Music in the Night - Forrest

Chancel Choir

The Words of Institution

Sally Hastings

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Cindy Hernandez & John Buckley

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.

I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

THE LIGHT

The Lighting of the Candles

Light from the Christ Candle will be brought to each pew.

Please tilt your candle to receive the light and hold it upright as you share it with your neighbor.

*Carol

Silent Night

No. 145

***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

Dr. Mark Bender

*Postlude

*Joy to the World – arr. DeCou
You may return your candle to the baskets in the Narthex.*

Debbie Watson

MEMORIALS AND HONORS

The poinsettias may be picked up after the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service today.

*Please stand, if you are able.

‡Please raise your candle.

CCLI License #504653

Christmas Eve by Herbert Burtis

Narrator

Chris Showalter

Mary

Zetty Anderson

Joseph

Davidson Cook

Wise Men

Carlos Ramos, Michael Stewart, Ethan Earley

Dancing Angel

Gwynaeth Stewart

Dancing Shepherds

Asher Stephenson, Jolie Felix, Gwynaeth Stewart

Pages

Lucy Anderson, Presley Parker, Allie Stewart

Shepherds

Alice Stewart, Adam Cook, Konner Burross, TJ Hafley, Blake Stewart,
Leif Anderson, Janea Pettit

* * * * *

Costuming

Claire Baer

Organist

Jeanette Showalter

Lighting

Erwin Soell, Showtech

Directed by

Stacey Strickland

As you flip your calendar to 2022...

On January 2, 2022, join in worship at 8:40 am or 10:45 am as we learn how a trait of Joseph, Jesus' earthly father, can serve us well in a new year!

Adaptation (a-dap-'tā-shən) noun: the act or process of changing or modifying behavior to suit new conditions or a new environment.

lessons from joseph
for a new year

christianity
101:
THE BASICS

Want to know more about the priceless basics of Christianity? Join in this new series at *The Neighborhood* beginning January 5, at 6:00 pm

 **RISE AGAINST HUNGER**
EXPERIENCE

On Saturday, January 8, help pack over 20,000 meals! This is a service experience the whole family can participate in as there are jobs for every age and ability. Learn more and sign up at firstchristianwf.com/rah.

modernfamily
timelessvalues

Jesus had a family, and the Gospels give us several pictures of his family life that still speak a word to our families today. This new worship series kicks off Sunday, January 9 at 8:40 am and 10:45 am.

 **FIRST** 
CHRISTIAN
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS
FIRSTCHRISTIANWF.COM

Who are the Disciples?



First Christian Church is a covenant congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), *a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.*

The "Principles of Identity" of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

1. We confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world, requiring nothing more - and nothing less - as a basis of our life together.
2. We hold the centrality of scripture, recognizing that each person has the freedom - and the responsibility - to study God's Word within the community of the church.
3. We practice the baptism of believers, which emphasizes that God's grace demands a response of faith and discipleship, while also recognizing the baptism performed in other churches.
4. We gather for the Lord's Supper, as often as possible, experiencing at this table the gracious, forgiving presence of Jesus Christ.
5. We structure our community around the biblical idea of covenant, emphasizing not obedience to human authority but accountability to one another because of our shared obedience to Christ.
6. We participate in God's mission for the world, working with partners to heal the brokenness of creation and bring justice and peace to the whole human family.
7. We hear a special calling to make visible the unity of all Christians, proclaiming that in our diversity we belong to one another because we commonly belong to Christ.
8. We witness to the Gospel of God's saving love for the world in Jesus Christ, while continuing to struggle with how God's love may be known to others in different ways.
9. We affirm the priesthood of all believers, rejoicing in the gifts of the Holy Spirit - which include the gift of leadership - that God has given for the common good.
10. We celebrate the diversity of our common life, affirming our different histories, styles of worship, and forms of service.
11. We give thanks that each congregation, where Christ is present through faith, is truly the church, affirming as well that God's church and God's mission stretch from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.
12. We anticipate God's coming reign, seeking to serve the God - Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer - whose loving dominion has no end.