REVELATIONS OF LIFE ABUNDANT



Christmas Eve Worship December 24, 2022 6PM

Seattle First Baptist Church www.seattlefirstbaptist.org

Prelude: Christian Broughton

Variations on "Angels We Have Heard on High" – arr. Joel Raney

I. Prayerful Angels

II. Whimsical Angels

III. Festive Angels

IV. Pensive Angels

V. Joyous Angels

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen, Op. 122, No. 8 – Johannes Brahms

Welcome Pastor Anita Peebles

Please read responsively the **bolded** text.

One: Welcome tonight to a celebration like no other!

All: This is the night of the Holy Birth!

One: Let the love of Jesus be born in your hearts and spirits! All: Open our hearts to receive this blessed gift, Loving God.

One: Rejoice, good friends, the Good News is here!

All: Christ our Savior is Born! Hallelujah!

One: Let us join together in a spirit of prayer. God of Surprising Love and Hope, we come this evening to the manger, gazing lovingly on the Child born to bring hope to the world. Open our hearts tonight as we hear the story anew. Help us to be guided by the Light of Jesus Christ, that we may truly feel the power of your love and bring that love, with joy, to all we meet. In Jesus' Name, we pray.

All: AMEN.

*Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful - arr. David Willcocks 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.

Refrain: 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." (refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born in us this evening, Jesus to thee be all glory giv'n. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. (refrain) Wreath Lighting

Sam, Nimi, Nathan, Steffi

Wreath Lighting Song

What Child Is This?

What child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this, the angels sing is Christ, God's holy offering; Haste, haste, your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mary.

Why lies the Child in manger bare where ox and ass are feeding? Give heed, draw near for sinner here the silent Word is pleading. This, this the angels sing is Christ God's holy offering; Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mary.

Bring gifts of incense, gold, and myrrh, come join in jubilation; The Holy Child though meek and mild, has come with God's salvation. This, this the angels sing is Christ God's holy offering; Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mary.

The Christmas Story (based on Luke 2:1-14)

Anthem

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing - arr. Helvey Sanctuary Choir, Christian Broughton and Margie Paynton

Poem

Shepherd's Song at Christmas by Langston Hughes

Stephen Smith

Call to Giving

Stephen Smith

*Hymn

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!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo! Scripture Isaiah 9:2-7 (Inclusive Version) Gerald Seminatore

Message Revelations of Life Abundant Pastor Anita Peebles

*Hymn 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 poor baby wakes, 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 take us to heaven to live with thee there.

Communion

All are welcome to participate in communion.

Please wait until the ushers release your row then line up in the center aisle. The station on the left (piano side) has bread to tear by hand and grape juice for intinction (dipping). The station on the right (organ side) has gluten-free bread and grape juice in individual cups. Hand sanitizer is provided at the front of the aisles.

After you receive your bread and juice, please feel free to eat it and return to your seats. All are welcome to sing in the remaining time.

Communion Music: You are invited to sing as able

Gesú Bambino – Pietro A. Yon - arr. Cindy Berry Margie Paynton and Christian Broughton

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem

Oh 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. Oh morning stars together proclaim thy holy birth! And praises sing and voices ring and peace to all on earth.

Hymn It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the Earth to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, great news of joy we bring." The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Hymn In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron water like a stone. Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow. In the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God heav'n cannot hold him, nor Earth sustain, Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed, The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air. But his mother only in her maiden bliss, Worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him? Poor as I am If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise one I would do my part, Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

*Hymn Hark! the Herald Angels Sing – arr. David Willcocks Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King: Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ the everlasting Lord! Late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'incarnate Deity, Pleased with flesh in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that all no more may die; Born to raise us all from earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Poem The Risk of Birth by Madeleine L'Engle

Cherry Johnson

Christmas by Candlelight

e the light tip your unlit candle towar

As the ushers share the light, tip your unlit candle toward the lit one. You are invited to keep the candle lit until you exit the sanctuary.

*Hymn Silent Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright; 'Round you 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.

Benediction Pastor Anita Peebles

Join us for Christmas Sunday worship and New Year's Sunday worship at 11am.

Communion servers: Inola and Danny de la Cruz, Serena Sullivan

The gathering words and prayer are from Ministry Matters,

https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2127/worship-connection-christmas-eve-option-1.