

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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December 24, 2021

**WE ARE CALLED TO BE A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
SHARING THE LOVE OF GOD**

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Welcome Worship Leader: Pastor Doug

Prelude: Robyn Wampler(C)

Advent Candle Lighting Ike and Pat Tritt (C)

Call to Worship: Linda Young Pitman (C)

L: The people who once lived in darkness have been given a great light!

P: PRAISE BE TO GOD WHO HAS HEARD OUR CRIES.

L: Our souls sing out God’s praise!

P: GOD HAS BROUGHT US A LIGHT OF HOPE AND PEACE.

L: Tonight, in this place, the Light of God’s love will be given to us!

P: AND WE SHALL SEE THAT LIGHT AND LET IT SHINE THROUGH OUR LIVES.

Song “O Come All Ye Faithful” #212

Evening Prayer Josh Tomes (W)

“There’s a Song in the Air” Handbells

Children’s Story “Why the Chimes Rang” Debbie Meenan (C)

Scripture Luke 2:1-20 Joyce & Dan Felix (W)

Hymn “Angels We Have Heard on High” #197

Anthem “There’s a Baby in the Stable” Combined Choir

Special Music “Away In A Manger” Alyssa Tomes (W)

Solo “O Holy Night” Jodi Shaffer (W)

Litany Pastor Doug

L: We thought we lived in the light, but the darkness of fear, anger, and alienation had taken over.

P: WE WONDERED WHERE GOD WAS.

L: God banished the darkness away in the light of the Christmas Star.

P: GOD’S LIGHT WAS FOUND AROUND A MANGER, A PLACE WHERE THE HOLY CHILD WAS GIVEN TO SLEEP.

L: God called to the shepherds through the voices of the angels whose first words were “do not be afraid. There is Good News for you!”

P: AND IN THAT INSTANCE, ALL THE PEOPLE WHO FELT THAT GOD DIDN’T CARE ABOUT THEM, HAD HOPE.

L: The star shone brightly and shines brightly in our lives.

P: NOW NO DARKNESS CAN SHUT IT OUT.

Hymn “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” #201

Candlelighting “Silent Night”
(form a circle around the sanctuary)

Benediction Jeanne Bobenage (C)

The Carlisle Church of the Brethren welcomes all visitors and our Brothers and Sisters from the Wolgamuth Church of the Brethren to our combined Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service.