



## **Worship Service for December 24, 2025 Christmas Eve Service of Communion & Candle Lighting**

<b>Prelude</b>	Marshall Davies
<b>Chiming of the Hour</b>	Amie Friday
<b>Choir Prelude</b>	Plymouth Choir
<i>"Sing Noel!"</i>	
<b>Welcome</b>	Pastor Felix Carrión
<b>Centering Moment</b>	Pastor Felix Carrión
<b>*Praise and Worship Song</b>	Congregation
<i>TNCH #148 "What Child is This"</i>	

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 is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud

the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear, for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come join in jubilation.

The King of Kings salvation brings.

Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high,  
the mother sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe the son of Mary!

## **Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Pastor Felix Carrión & Amie Friday

LEADER: It is the season of short days and long nights. We light these candles to remember that even in darkness, God's light shines. These candles represent hope, peace, joy, love, and the Christ candle.

**ALL: The Christ Child reminds us of our own divinity and the gift of God's love he embodied for humanity. May this love reign in our hearts.**

LEADER: With these flames, we proclaim the Holy Light in us and our world. This Holy Light is more potent than rulers and empires; stronger than despair; stronger even than death.

**ALL: Together we are walking the path of Godly light and love for ourselves and our world.**

LEADER: Together we seek to embody this light and love for our world, as was the truth of Jesus' life.

**ALL: Together we are walking the path of Divine Light for ourselves and for the sake of humanity.**

**Holy One, we open ourselves to you this Christmas  
Eve. May Jesus be born anew in us.**

**\*Carol**

Congregation

*TNCH #144 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*  
*vs. 1 & 3*

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new born king!"  
"Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinner reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
With th' angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the Christ-child bring!"

Hail the Bearer of God's peace!  
Hail the Sun of righteousness,  
Light and life our Savior brings,

ris'n with radiant, healing wings.

Mildly laying glory by,

born that we 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 Christ-child bring!”

### **\*Gathering Prayer**

Congregation

**ALL: God, our Creator, we come to worship with a song of praise in our hearts—a song of hope and renewal. We pray for joy to reign in our hearts, hope to overcome despair, love to offer freely to one and all, and peace upon the earth. We ask for the healing of humanity, the restoration of creation, and your blessings on all people. May there be bread for the hungry, love for those rejected by society, healing of body and mind for the sick, and protection for our children. We pray for the light of the Child Christ to**

**reach into our world. We pray in the name of all that  
is Holy and True.**

**Amen.**

**Invitation to Offering**

Amie Friday

UCC Pension Board Christmas Fund (UCC 5 for 5)

**\*Doxology**

Congregation

**ALL: Praise God for gifts of hope and peace**

**Praise God for gifts of joy and love**

**Praise God for sending Christ to dwell**

**On earth for us - Emmanuel.**

**Amen.**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

Amie Friday

**ALL: Holy One, we open our hearts and spirits to  
new birth and transformation. We commit what we  
have gathered to help us sow seeds of love. May this  
offering bring forth a new beginning of hope and  
peace. Bless these gifts with your power and  
anointing.**

**Amen.**

## **Biblical Witness**

Pastor Felix Carrión

*Luke 1:46 - 55*

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for God has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is God's name. God's mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. God has shown strength with a mighty arm; The Holy One has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. The Holy One has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. The Holy One has helped the servant Israel, in remembrance of mercy, according to the promise the Holy One made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

## **Contemporary Witness**

Amie Friday

*The Great Invocation: A World Prayer*  
*Published and Circulated by World Goodwill*  
*(adapted)*

From the point of Light within the Mind of God

Let light stream forth into human minds.

Let Light descend on Earth.

From the point of Love within the Heart of God

Let love stream forth into human hearts.

May the Coming One return to Earth.

From the centre where the Will of God is known

Let purpose guide all little human wills –

The purpose which the Masters know and serve.

From the centre which we call the human race

Let the Plan of Love and Light work out

And may it seal the door where evil dwells.

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

## **Reflection**

Pastor Felix Carrión

*“Our Spirit Rejoices”*



## **Special Music**

Plymouth Choir

### *“Love Came Down”*

*(Spoken:) Love is patient, love is kind. Love always protects. Love always hopes, always perseveres. Love bears all things, believes all things. Love endures all things. Love never ends. Love never fails. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

Love came down at Christmas, Love came down (7x), Love came down! (Love came down!) Love came down at Christmas, Love came down!

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down! Gloria! (Love came down, love came down!) Love came down at Christmas, love came down!

On Christmas night all Christians sing  
to hear the news that the angels bring.  
All out of darkness we have light,  
for Love came down on that Christmas night.

News of great hope and news of great mirth,  
(Love and peace on earth,) joyful news of our merciful King's birth.

Gloria!

(Love came down (3x).)

Oh come, all ye faithful,  
(He is born, the divine Christ child,) joyful and triumphant,  
(play the oboe and bagpipe merrily.)

O come, o come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.

O come let us adore Him (3x),  
Christ the Lord.

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed.  
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her tiny Child.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."  
Love came down at Christmas,

Love came down (7x)  
on Christmas night.

**Invitation and Communion Prayer**      Pastor Felix Carrión

PASTOR: Welcome, friends, to this holy sharing.

**ALL: Welcome to offer love.**

PASTOR: Welcome to this time set apart.

**ALL: A time to remember the holy promises of God.**

PASTOR: Welcome to this table of remembrance and joy.

**ALL: Where we are fed, the feast of life in the bread  
and cup.**

**Communion Prayer**      Pastor Felix Carrión

**Breaking Bread and Pouring Cup**

**Sharing the Elements** *(all elements are gluten & alcohol free)*

**Communion Music**      Plymouth Choir  
*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

*For the last verse the Music Director will be invited the  
congregation to sing along:*

**ALL: God imparts to human hearts the glor-ious love of heav'n.**

**No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear  
Christ enters in.**

**Jesus' Prayer**

Pastor Felix Carrión

*(taken from The New Zealand Book of Prayer)*

**ALL: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer,  
Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is  
heaven: The hallowing of your name echoes through  
the universe! The way of your justice be followed by  
the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done  
by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace  
and freedom sustains our hope and comes on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts  
we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of  
temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too  
great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is**

**evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power  
that is love, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **The Tradition of Candle Lighting**

Pastor Felix Carrión

### **\*Carol**

Plymouth Choir & Congregation

*“Silent Night, Holy Night”*

Silent night, holy night,

All is calm, all is bright

Round yon Mary

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,

Child of God, love pure light,

Radiant, beams from your holy face

With the dawn of redeeming grace;

Jesus Christ at thy birth,

Jesus Christ at thy birth.

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Felix Carrión

**\*Carol**

Congregation

*TNCH #132 "Joy to the World" vs 1 & 3*

Joy to the world!

The Child is come;

Let earth its praises bring;

Let every heart

Prepare Christ room,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven  
And nature sing.

Christ loves the world  
With truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of  
God's righteousness  
And wonders of God's love,  
And wonders of God's love,  
And wonders, wonders,  
Of God's love.

**Postlude**

Marshall Davies

### **Today's Worship Participants**

Worship Leader: *Amie Friday*

Video Operator: *Mark Vines*

Projector Operator: *Cathy Normand*

Sound Technician: *Cii-jayy Jones*

Choir members:

*Mary Davis*

*Pam Laham*

*Kate Flagge*

*Veronica Amandola*

*Martha Vidal*

*Sara Tatar*

*Andrew Laham (guitar)*

*Colin Delaney (guitar)*

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