



SACRED Being

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2019; 7:00 p.m.

Broadway United Methodist Church, Chicago

*This service is a variation on a service of light — an opposite of a Tenebrae service.
Candles in the Chancel area symbolize the characters in the narrative.*

“...For to us a child is born...” Isaiah 9:6

Welcome to Broadway on this Christmas Eve! Every time we gather in Worship, we celebrate that all of God's children are named and claimed by God as “beloved” – embraced by that extravagant love of God that knows no bounds. Whether this is your first Christmas here or you've been here many years...we welcome you to this faith family that commits itself as an anti-racist, multi-cultural community as well as a reconciling one where people who are LGBTQ can live and love authentically.

We invite you to join us again!

- **Christmas Carol Sing** on Sunday, December 29. **ONE SERVICE at 11am.** Join us for a service of singing! Our Director of Music Ministries, Robert Galbreath, Jr., will lead the congregation in Christmas carols, prayers, and hymns.
- **Kwanzaa Service** on Sunday, January 5. **ONE SERVICE at 11am.** (Our observance of Holy Communion will move from the 1st Sunday of the month to the 2nd Sunday of the month — January 12.)

Our regular Sunday schedule resumes on January 12, with Sunday morning Worship at 9 & 11 am, and Adult Education at 10:15am. We welcome you to join our family of faith as we begin a new year here in Lakeview!

For more information, visit www.BroadwayChurchChicago.com.

MUSIC OF GATHERING: "He Is Born" (Il Est Né)

Timothy Barnes, organ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN: "Joy to the World"..... see below

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room. And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

WELCOME STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

(Please check in on Facebook and/or on Twitter @ChicagoBUMC, wifi password is 7733482679, and pass the friendship pads to register your attendance and any updated contact information.)

Welcome to worship, God's beloved! **YES, I Am Welcome! Bienvenidas y bienvenidos!**

OPENING PROCLAMATION: "They Have Heard It on the Hills"

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "Joy to the World"..... see below

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground,
He comes to make His Blessings flow, Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as, the curse is found.**

The Prophecy

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 and John 1:1-2, 4-5

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Coming of Jesus is Announced to Mary and Joseph

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:26-38 and Matthew 1:18-25

CHORAL ANTHEM

To the world!
The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-5

* Please stand, in body or in spirit.

Bold type within liturgy indicates congregational response.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" see below

**O 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 street shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Jesus is Born

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:6-7

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: "Away in a Manger" see below

**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.**

Jesus' Birth is Announced to the Shepherds

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:9-14

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" see below

**It came upon a 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, from heaven's all gracious King.
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:15-18

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: "The First Noel" see below

**The first noel the angels did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, noel, noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel.**

The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts to Jesus

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:1-11

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: "The First Noel" see below

**And by the light of that same star, three wise men came from county far.
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, noel, noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel.**

[continued...]



**Then entered in the wise men three, full reverently upon the knee.
And offered there in His presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, noel, noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel.**

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

*[Broadway is committed to the financial support of its identity, vision, and ministry by tithing.
Consider making an offering this morning of 10 percent of your income from this past week.]*

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "What Child is This"..... see below

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of Kings salvation brings. Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Let us pray: **Great God our Redeemer, we sing your praises. Your glorious love shines in the face of Jesus, born a babe in this dark world. We marvel that he generously humbled himself to bring salvation. Let the light in our sanctuary and our songs of praise spill through to neighbors far and near. May our gifts and offerings reflect the light of Christ and, as beacons in the night, draw people far and near closer to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

DUET: "O Holy Night" (Adolphe Adams) Robert Galbreath, Jr. and Ronnie Lyall

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER WITH SEVEN WORDS

by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker, All Souls Church Unitarian, Washington, DC

***CLOSING HYMN: "Silent Night, Holy Night" see insert**

[You are invited to move into a circle around the Sanctuary.]

***SENDING FORTH**

POSTLUDE: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Adeste Fideles) Timothy Barnes, organ

[Please remain seated for the postlude, or if needed, leave quietly.]

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*Liturgy adapted from enfleshed.com and worshipdesignstudio.com. Scripture from The Inclusive Bible. Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2009. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-725521.*

May the spirit of Christmas bless you today  
and throughout the coming year.

**www.BroadwayChurchChicago.com**