Christmas Eve      December 24, 2021      5:00 PM Worship

Gathering Music  
*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*  traditional carol
Darlene Hoague, Bob Quintiliani, Courtney Lombardi
Eric Van Dervort, piano

Welcome and Christmas Greeting

Advent Candle Lighting

Opening Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Call to Worship *(Responsive)*:

One: Tonight new dreams and hopes come alive.
All: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.*

One: Hope and peace and joy and love come together this night.
All: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.*

One: The Light of the world has come.
All: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.*

One: And this Light is a light for all people.
All: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.*

Scripture Reading: *Isaiah 9: 6, 7 (NRSV)*

> 6For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.


In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3All went to their own towns to be registered. 4Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Message  
*Rev. Scott Spencer*

> 4in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.
> 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

* − John 1: 4, 5 (NRSV)*

Coventry Carol with Noël Nouvelet  traditional medieval carols
Sharon Albert - soprano recorder

Christmas Prayer
Offering dedication

Carols

Away in a Manger verse 1 PH #137  
Joy to the World the Lord Is Come verses 1 & 2 PH #130  
Go, Tell It on the Mountain all verses PH #488

Benediction

Candle lighting

Silent Night, Holy Night

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.

Woodridge Congregational Church
Rev. Scott Spencer, Pastor
Eric Van Dervort, Music Minister
woodridgechurchri.org facebook.com/woodridgecongregational

As a caring and welcoming community, using the Bible as a resource and the teachings of Jesus as our guide, we joyfully welcome everyone into our Christian community, regardless of race, ethnicity, class, age, mental status, family structure, physical or mental ability, religious background or theological perspective, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. As Christian disciples, we invite all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, worship, sacraments, blessings and joys of our congregation.