

In The Quiet of the Night
December 24, 2025

Prelude

“Mary Had a Baby”

Welcome

Pastor: May the peace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Song: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” vs 1, 3, 4

Lift Up Your Hearts #76

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!
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!
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Isaiah 9:2,6-7 (Reader)

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Song: "O Holy Night" vs 1-3

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night, O night divine!
Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand;
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;
He knows our need to our weakness is no stranger,
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!
Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace;
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name;
Christ is the Lord, O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

Reading: In The Quiet of the Night

Pastor: In the quiet of the night

Women: A young woman gives birth, accepting her part in God's plan

Pastor: In the quiet of the night

Men: A husband becomes a father, accepting his part in God's plan.

Pastor: In the quiet of the night

All: A baby breathes the air, and God steps down from the divine into everyday life, for us.

Song: "Mary, Did You Know?"

Mary did you know That your baby boy
Would one day walk on water
Mary did you know That your baby boy
Would save our sons and daughters
Did you know That your baby boy
Has come to make you new
This Child that you delivered Will soon deliver you
Mary did you know That your baby boy
Would give sight to the blind man
Mary did you know That your baby boy
Would calm a storm with His hand
Did you know That your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod
And when you kiss your little baby You've kissed the face of God
Oh Mary did you know
Ooh Mary did you know ooh ooh
The blind will see The deaf will hear
The dead will live again The lame will leap
The dumb will speak The praises of the Lamb
Oh Mary did you know That your baby boy
Is Lord of all creation
Mary did you know That your baby boy
Will one day rule the nations
Did you know That your baby boy
Is heaven's perfect Lamb
And the sleeping Child you're holding Is the great I Am
Oh Mary oh

John 1:4-5, 9-12 (Reader)

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his

own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

Reading: We Accept the Gift of Christmas

Men: In the quiet of the night, we accept a gift.

Women: A personal act of faith; accepting our part in God's plan.

Pastor: In the quiet of the night, we are changed forever by our Savior Christ Jesus, who is God with us, now and forever.

Song: "Away in a Manger" vs 1-3

Lift Up Your Hearts #158

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head:
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay;
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus: look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care;
Prepare us for heaven to live with you there.

Advent Candle Lighting

Reader 1: Hope, peace, joy, and love present the gifts of Christmas. The anticipation of this season has led us to this night – quiet and reverent in its tone, yet with a depth of meaning that changed the world.

Reader 2: Tonight we light the candle of love. This love is more than emotion, more than attraction. Naomi, Ruth, and Boaz showed us a love born in commitment, and grown in faithfulness and self-sacrifice. It bears all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

Reader 3: Tonight we light the Christ candle. This child would show us the greatest love, that would lay down his life for his friends. Our greatest hope, peace, and joy are found in him. We love, because he first loved us.

Ruth 4:1-6

Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat down there just as the guardian-redeemer he had mentioned came along. Boaz said, "Come over here, my friend, and sit down." So he went over and sat down.

² Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, "Sit here," and they did so. ³ Then he said to the guardian-redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our relative Elimelek. ⁴ I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest that you buy it in the presence of these seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not, tell me, so I will know. For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line."

"I will redeem it," he said.

⁵ Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the land from Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property."

⁶ At this, the guardian-redeemer said, "Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it."

Christmas Eve Meditation on Ruth 4

Prayer

(Candles are lit during the reading and introduction to the song.)

Reading: We are Sent to Give the Gift of Christmas

Pastor: In the quiet of the night

All: We have heard God's word; a personal word of life and transformation.

Men: In the quiet of the night—

Women: In the quiet of *this* night— we are called to care.

Men: We are called to share a personal story of Christmas,

People: A personal word of hope, or hand of service, this season.

Pastor: May God's light shine in the night, through his people. Amen.

Song: "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Lift Up Your Hearts #85

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
Silent night, holy night Wondrous star, lend thy light
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King
Christ the Savior is born Christ the Savior is born

Blessing

(Please extinguish your candles and place them in the basket as you leave.)

Postlude

Meditation: Pastor Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Nate VanDyk, Maggie VanDyk, Sarah VanDyk, Laura Hufford, Elijah Hufford

Advent Reading: Laura Hufford, Jackson Hufford, Eijah Hufford