

CASTILE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
4 Washington Street Castile, NY 14427

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 24th, 2022

7:00 PM

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Introit: "ANUNA" - Maria Matrem Virginem (Maria Virgin Mother)
Jackie Swaby, Patrick Feroletto & Maya Bellamy

Ringling of Tower Bell: 7:00 PM

Welcome: Tammy Lathan

Lighting of Christ Candle: Suanne Redden & Beth Pond

Congregational Prayer: Father, thank you for the gift of your Son. For sending him into our world to be our Savior, who will save his people from their sins. In Jesus' holy name, we pray. Amen.

★Opening Hymn No. 128 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" vs. 1 & 3

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heavens all gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.
O ye beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way, with painful steps and slow;
Look now, for glad and golden hours, come swiftly on the wing;
Oh rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

★Prayer of Invocation:

O wondrous God of the stars, we come tonight with breathless wonder to see the babe who will change our lives. We hear the names "Wonderful Counselor", "Mighty God," "Prince of Peace," and we are in awe. You have touched the earth this night with your unconditional love. Touch our hearts and minds and souls. May we never tire of this story. May we never take it for granted. Make this night magical again. Amen.

★Gloria Patri

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:2-6

CUCC Church Choir: "Glory, Glory" by Besig & Price

★Hymn No. 132 "Angels We Have Heard on High" vs. 1 & 3

**Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply, Echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

CUCC Church Choir: "Bethlehem" by Larson

Children's Message: "Christmas Lights"

★Hymn No. 143 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, Noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow: Christ the babe was born for you.
Christ the babe was born for you.

CUCC Handbell Choir: "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Cathy Moglebust

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:14-16

CHRISTMAS EVE MESSAGE - "Reflecting the Light of Jesus"

Special Music: "Circle of Love" - Dolly Parton

THE SYMBOLISIM OF CANDLELIGHTING

(Please remain seated - All lights will be extinguished - Candles will gradually be lit as we take the light from the Christ Candle and pass it on through the congregation.)

Candle Lighting

Special Music: "O Holy Night" Soloist - Lindsay Buckel

Accompanist – Lisa Gunn

Closing Hymn: "Silent Night" (Remain seated)

Hand Bell Choir Processional

**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.**

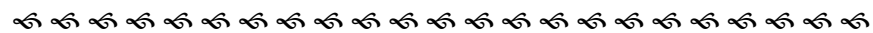
**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!**

**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.**

Lights on - Candles extinguished

Benediction

The Recessional: "Go Tell It on The Mountain" - J. Thomas Reagan



- Temporary Pastor: Tammy Lathan
- Lay Leader Tonight: Larry Rogers
- Church Choir Director: Barbara Meyer
- Handbell Choir Director: J. Thomas Reagan
- Pianist Tonight: Sally Bliss
- Facebook Tech: Tyler King
- Worship Technology Team: Charles Miller Barbara Meyer Steve Meyer
Ronald Lathan Tom Reagan James Loomis