

Christmas Eve
Candlelight and Communion Service
Saturday, December 24, 2022

They Are Darkened in Their Understanding

The Darkness

The Candle of Hope

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

The Candle of Peace

Hymn *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

The Candle of Joy

Hymn *Joy to the World/For Unto Us a Child Is Born*

Cindy Pitts, Solo

The Candle of Love

Hymn *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

The People Walking in Darkness
Have Seen a Great Light

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Bergen Family

Scripture

Luke 2.1-14

Christmas Meditation

Pastor Fred

The Lighting of the Candles and Singing of the Carols

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Away in a Manger

Silent Night

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Light Shines in the Darkness

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

1 John 1.5-9

Song *Let Us Break Bread Together (1st verse)*

The Bread

Song *Let Us Break Bread Together (2nd verse)*

The Cup

Song *Let Us Break Bread Together (3rd verse)*

Responsive Reading *(See back page)*

Benediction Hymn *Joy to the World*



Welcome to Ancient City Baptist Church!

Thank you for attending our Christmas Eve worship! You are always welcome. If you do not have a church "home," we would love for you to consider us!

As part of our service tonight, we are celebrating Communion, or the Lord's Supper. If you call Jesus your Lord, we invite you to partake of the Lord's Supper to remember his death. If you are not yet a believer in Christ, we invite you to use the Communion time to meditate on the meaning of the bread and the cup: that Jesus Christ died so that we might receive forgiveness of our sins and receive the gift of eternal life as we turn from our sin and follow him. That's the reason he came at Christmas!

As is our custom when observing Communion, a benevolence offering for the needy in our community will be taken at the close of the service. Baskets for the offering will be at the exits but, especially for our guests, please do not feel any obligation to give. This offering is simply an opportunity for those desiring to help some of the less fortunate in our community and does not go into our regular church funds.

Responsive Reading

Pastor: Jesus came to earth at Christmas to save us from our sins.

**ALL: He lived as our light, died as a sacrifice for our sins,
and was raised from the dead by the power of God.**

Pastor: Jesus is still alive, living in heaven with the Father.

ALL: And Jesus is coming again.

*Pastor: Even now, he prepares a place for us, so that where he is,
there we may be also.*

ALL: And Jesus is coming again to gather his people.

*Pastor: Until his coming, we are called to be light to our world. He
gives us his light to shine in the darkness.*

**ALL: We will live in his light and spread his light to all. We
will proclaim that the Lord has come and has died
for our sins and is coming again.**

*Pastor: Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let us spread the good
news even as we watch for his coming.*

**ALL: We celebrate Christmas, his first coming, and we
wait and watch for him to come again.**

Pastor: Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

ALL: Amen! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

Pastor: Amen!



Ancient City
BAPTIST CHURCH

***Pursuing Life in Christ
with Passion and Purpose!***



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Fred O. Pitts, Pastor
Curtis Powell, Music Director