

Sharing the Light

Introduction

Hank Anderson

†Carol

Silent Night, Holy Night

#145

The children will lead us with candles from the chancel.
All children are welcome to come up front.

†Benediction

Hank Anderson

†Carol

Joy to the World

#143

Postlude

The Joy of Christmas

arr. Smith

Merry Christmas!

Please join us in the lounge
following worship to enjoy
cookies and punch.



Christmas Eve Worship



December 24, 2024
6:00 pm

† indicates standing, if able



First Christian Church

6400 N University St
Peoria, IL 61614

fccpeoria.org
[@FCCPeoriaIL](https://www.instagram.com/FCCPeoriaIL)

Welcome (Please sign in online or on the red pad in your pew)

Music for Meditation Cantique de Noel Adam/Hughes

A Moment of Silence

†Call to Worship

Leader: We have been on a journey through Advent

People: A journey to celebrate something familiar and yet mysterious.

Leader: We have come together this night

People: Seeking light in a dark and dangerous world.

Leader: We gather as people of faith and no faith, people of hope and no hope, people of peace and no peace.

People: With the longing to be made whole again, if just for this time.

Leader: We come seeking good news that will bring great joy to all people.

People: We gather, ready for this story of faith to unfold.

†Opening Carol Angels We Have Heard on High #155

†Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

All: Almighty God, we have waited for a long time for your hope, your joy, and your love to shine in the darkness of this world. Even now, in our gathering here, we await you. In our hearts, we still hope that your light will blaze forth, banishing the shadows of this world and guiding all the people back to you. Open our hearts, merciful God, to the sparks of your presence still in this world. Open our eyes, that we might behold your presence in the least likely of places and among the least likely of people. God with us, kindle your spark within us, that together we may shine forth your light, that we might banish the shadows of this world, and that we might be the continuation of the Christmas miracle: Emmanuel is in this world, God is with us, now and evermore. Illumine our hearts, gracious God, as we worship this night. Amen.

12 Gifts of Christmas Offering

About & Meditation Hank Anderson

Bringing Forth O Little Town of Bethlehem arr. Price

Dedication of Offering

Christmas Is Hope

Scripture Isaiah 9:2b-7

Reflection Hank Anderson

†Carol O Come All Ye Faithful #148

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Christmas Is Peace

Scripture Luke 1:26-38

Reflection Deann Anderson

Carol O Little Town of Bethlehem #144

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Christmas Is Love

Scripture Luke 1:46-55

Reflection Hank Anderson

†Carol Hark! the Herald Angels Sing #150

Lighting the Candle of Love

Special Music

Sanctuary Choir O Holy Night arr. Joel Raney

Christmas Is Joy

Scripture Luke 2:1-5

Reflection Deann Anderson

Carol It Came Upon the Midnight Clear #153

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Christmas Is Light

A Christmas Prayer Hank Anderson

Scripture Luke 2:6-20

Children’s Message Mason Fitch

Carol Lighting the Christ Candle vs. 5 on screen