



Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

Candlelight Service

In the Presence of the Holy

We dedicate this service in loving memory of William August Engler, Ed Merck, Christina Brown, Sunny Wilson, Clara Kennedy, and Stephan Knight.

These extraordinary persons graced us with their presence and lit our flame.

Bell Ringing Sharon and Lucy Engler

Prelude Jeremy Berlin

Welcome Rev. Vicky Hanjian

Call to Worship *Breathed into the World* by Rev. Sandra Fees Chris Seidel

Lighting the Chalice Ethan and Alex Knight

Hymn *Come All Ye Faithful*

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 in the highest, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

First Lesson Genesis 1:1-3, 5 Lucia Hayman

Reading *Making the House Ready for the Lord* by Mary Oliver

Carol *Oh Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and
dreamless sleep the silent stars go by: Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting
light;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels
keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy
birth!

And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

Second Lesson Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Christine Ferrone

Reading *The Risk of Birth, An Advent Poem* by Madeleine L'Engle

Carol *Oh Come, O Come Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and with your captive children dwell. Give comfort to all exiles here, and to the aching heart bid cheer. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come within as Faith to dwell.

O come, thou Splendor very bright, as joy that never yields to might, O come and turn all hearts to peace, that greed and war at last shall cease. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come within as Joy to dwell.

Third Lesson Luke 2:1-7

Ed Pachico

One Small Child by David Meece

Judy Crawford & Jennifer Knight

Carol *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn king; Peace on earth and mercy mild, god and sinners reconciled! Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;

With angelic host, proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem! Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn king!

Christ, by highest heaven adored: Christ, the everlasting Lord; Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the favored one. Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity: Pleased, as man, with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the newborn king!

Fourth Lesson Luke 2:8-16

Mimi Davisson

Time for all Ages *Great Joy* by Kate DiCamillo

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie

A Merry Christmas Wish by Pepper Choplin

Choir & Congregation

Fifth Lesson Matthew 2:1-5a, 7-11

Eric Brooks

Offering

Tonight's offering benefits the Minister's Discretionary Fund, which seeks to meet the urgent financial needs of individuals and families on Martha's Vineyard. Those in need should contact a member of our Lay Pastoral Care Team. All conversations and requests for assistance are deemed confidential. A portion of this year's offering will also help support the Red Stocking Fund. Please contribute as you are able. Your support is your gift to others who are in need.

Offertory

Jeremy Berlin

Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains. And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?

What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?

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.

Homily

Rev. Vicky Hanjian

Candle Lighting

Betsy Young Buck and Jennifer Parkinson, Assistants

Carol *Silent 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.

Moment of Silence**Candlelight Extinguishing**

Congregation

All: Through our words and actions, may we continue the work of Christmas,
 bringing the light of truth, the warmth of community and the fire of commitment
 from this space out into our world.

Musical Response *Shalom Chaverim*

Choir

Benediction

Rev. Vicky Hanjian

Carol *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, Let earth receive her King, Let every heart
 prepare Him room, And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing, And
 Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing
 Joy to the World, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ. While fields and
 floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy
 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove, The glory of
 His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And
 wonders, wonders, of His love

Postlude

Jeremy Berlin

A big thank you to Our Greeters Ethan and Alex Knight and the Parish Committee.

Special thanks to Our Choir, accompanied by Jeremy Berlin:

Genevieve Abbot, Bill Bridwell, Betsy Young Buck, Judy Crawford, Mimi Davisson,
Jennifer Knight, Annie Palches, Peter Palches, Sue Streeter, Martina Thornton

Reverend Vicky and the Worship Committee would like to offer words of gratitude to all who helped make this evening's service one of beauty and wonder – particularly the readers and the choir, with deep appreciation for Jeremy Berlin's music. Deep thanks to the Rev. Aaron Stockwell for inspiring the structure of this service.

And finally, to all the members and friends who see and find community within this beloved congregation: may your days be full of joy, your nights full of warmth, your hearts be full of hope, and the year ahead be overflowing with wonder. Much love to you all.

Poinsettia Donations

Dorie Godfrey: (3) For all those without safe and stable housing on the Island. For all those trying to survive in territories of war - especially the children. For Gregg with thoughts of healing.

Ursula Goodenough: Daniel Goodenough

MaryJane Aldrich Moodie: Meredith Aldrich, Vivian Seidel and Bob Seidel

The Engler Family: (2) In loving memory of William August Engler, our beloved son and brother. In loving memory of Sylvia and Joseph Loferski, our parents and grandparents.

Abbie Steele: The Steele family of Chilmark.

Kristy and Eric Brooks: (2) In honor of Stefan Knight and in honor of JoAnn Brooks.

Laura Beebe: (2) In memory of Ken and Karen Beebe.

Richard Peia and Doris Troy

Jan Casey and Rita Brown: In memory of Family Members and Friends.

Linda and Roger Moffat: In honor of Dorthy Drozdyk and in memory of Tad Crawford.

