

Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve • December 24, 2009 • 7:00 p.m.

Worship & Candlelight Celebration

CHORAL RESPONSE
What Child is This?

Worship Ensemble
GREENSLEEVES

CHRISTMAS PRAYER OF ADORATION (IN UNISON)

Dr. Randy Steele

O Holy God, we hear the story of shepherds and Magi, of maiden and carpenter, of prophets and angels, and we, too, come to Bethlehem for a blessing. You are born in our hearts because you have chosen the weakness of our bodies for your birth. We are filled with love because you have taken upon yourself our humanity. We are filled with hope because you have offered us your Spirit, your life and your light. We are filled with faith because all that is meek, lowly and humble in us becomes holy this night. Our salvation has come into this holy time and we say together, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all." Amen.

**CAROL OF JOY #146 (vs. 1, 2, 4)*
Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Worship Ensemble & Congregation
ANTIOCH

CHRISTMAS OFFERING AND PRAYER

Rev. Emily McColl

OFFERTORY MUSIC
O Holy Night

Carrie Lee, Soloist
by Adolphe C. Adam

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

John 1:1-14

Dr. Randy Steele

"The Source of Light and Life"

From Bethlehem's manger comes the most remarkable claim. The Gospel writer John tells us that as the Son was with the Father and the Spirit at creation, shoving aside the darkness to bring light, so is he the source of light in your life and the light of the world who brings creative hope into every dark moment.

ANTHEM OF JOY

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

Chancel Choir
by Howard Helvey

**THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE*

Rev. Emily McColl

Leader: Arise, shine, for our light has come and the glory of the Lord has shone around us.

People: *The Lord will be our everlasting light and God will be our glory.*

Leader: On this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ candle for the child-King, the infant-Redeemer, the lowly-Lord. And now we know...He is born and nothing will ever be the same!

People: *The Light has come to us and unto us is born a Savior!*

**CHRISTMAS BLESSING*

Dr. Randy Steele

**THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES*

As we sing “Silent Night,” the lights will be dimmed. An usher will then light the candle of the first worshiper in each row from the Christ Candle in order to pass the light of Christ from person to person. *(To avoid spilling hot wax, please keep your lit candle upright allowing the person next to you to light his or her candle.)* We hold our candles high on the 3rd verse so that the light we have received may be seen from afar. As our candles are a sea of light lit from the one Light of Christ, so may we reflect Christ’s light and love in the world.

**CAROL OF RESPONSE*

Silent Night! Holy Night! (Vs. 1–4)

by Franz Gruber

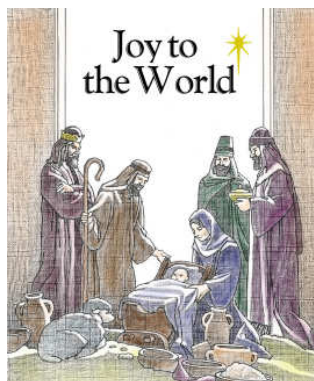
*Silent night! Holy night! All is
Calm, all is bright, ‘round yon
Virgin mother and Child, holy
Infant so tender and mild; sleep in
Heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly
Peace.*

*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 Savoir is born,
Christ the Savior is born.*

(Following the singing of Silent Night, the ushers will dismiss you by rows.)



May the peace and joy of this Christmas night go with you!