

**Falls Village Congregational Church**  
**December 24, 2025**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

**Prelude**  
**Greeting and Welcome**  
**Ringling of the Church Bell**

**Choir Anthem – *Hodie Natus Est***                      Gail Leven Pollock

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**                      Larry and Maria Bulson  
(see back)

**Call to Worship:**

Children of God, welcome!  
**Welcome to this place of love and grace,**  
Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.  
**God invites all of us to be part of the beloved community.**  
God invites all of us to share in the good news.  
**We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.**  
In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

**Hymn #148 *O Come, All Ye Faithful***

**Opening Prayer (Unison) and The Lord’s Prayer (using  
...trespasses...)**

**O God, who has ordered this wondrous world, and who knows  
all things in earth and heaven: so fill our hearts with trust in you,  
that at all times and in all places we may without fear commit all  
that we have and hope to be to your never-failing love, for this life  
and the life to come. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our  
Lord, who taught us to pray, Our Father...**

**A Christmas Story *Grabbed by Grace*** Rev. Dr. Richard Reifsnyder  
read by Maria Bulson

**Choir Anthem *Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head*** John Jacob Niles

**A Christmas Prayer** Chuck Lewis

**A Service of Lessons and Carols (see insert)**

**Benediction** Dick Heinz

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*\*Thank you to our music director Liz Allyn, for leading us tonight and  
throughout the year.*  
*\*You are invited to place your offerings as you leave in the plate at  
either entrance to the church.*  
*\*Our candles have been lit this evening with the flame of the Peace  
Light of Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. The Peace Light is a Boy  
Scout project and this year marks the thirteenth year we have had it  
for Christmas Eve, thanks to Sandy Rhoades, a Boy Scout leader in  
our NW corner.*

**~A Blessed Christmas to All of You ~**

## Christmas Eve – December 24, 2025

Each week during Advent we have been lighting the candles on our wreath.

(Light 1<sup>st</sup> candle-purple) We light the 1<sup>st</sup> candle and speak of hope - because God keeps his promises to us.

(Light 2<sup>nd</sup> candle- purple) We light the 2<sup>nd</sup> candle and promise to work for peace – because Jesus is the 'Prince of Peace.'

(Light 3<sup>rd</sup> candle-pink) We light the 3<sup>rd</sup> candle and celebrate joy because the Holy Spirit fills us with the joyous presence of Christ.

(Light 4<sup>th</sup> candle- purple) We light the 4<sup>th</sup> candle to show love because Jesus gave himself for us and led us to know the forgiveness of God.



We now light the Christ candle, for Christ our Savior is born, born in our world, born in our lives. (light center white candle). Jesus said, “I am the light of the world,” He is the light which shines in the darkness and which the darkness cannot overcome.

Listen to how Paul describes the great mystery of the incarnation:

*When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*

Titus 3:4-5

Let us sing v. 5 of #128 “One Candle is Lit”

*Come, listen, the sounds of God – with us ring clear,  
and signs of a cross in the distance appear.*

*The Word once made flesh yet the Word ever near  
One candle is lit for the Christ-birth-day here.*

**Prayer - On this holy night we stand in awe of the mystery of the incarnation, that you, O God, entered our world in human flesh, as a baby, tiny, vulnerable, an ordinary birth. But in him we have the Savior of our world, our Savior, who brings us life abundant. Thanks be to God for this inexpressible gift. Amen.**

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