

WELCOME

We welcome you to our Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Tonight, we not only acknowledge the story of Jesus' birth, 2000 years ago, but, more importantly, the truth that is at the heart of its meaning, Emmanuel, God with us. Please join with us in the singing of Carols, the readings from scriptures and the lighting of the candles as we follow the story of the nativity. Let us worship together and be carriers of wonderful news that the light of Christ that enters our darkened world; which for us is still the hope of the world.



The poinsettias on our altar have heard the hymns that were sung, the prayers that were offered and the sermon that has been preached. Please remember to take your to take home your poinsettias following the worship service.



OUR PRAYER CONCERNS Members, Friends and Family – Resting at Home



Bill Berry
Josephine Bowden
Beth Chandler
Jennifer Harbach
Evelyn Kopf
Cardinia Namendi
Aurora Piedra
Marge Schoonover

Maureen Berger (Jennifer's mother)
Kimberly Bryant
Barbara Esposito (Mary Miller's daughter)
Judy Hoak
Adeline Lofstrom
Quaid Mobus (Darin Lentzsch's cousin)
Ligia Piedra

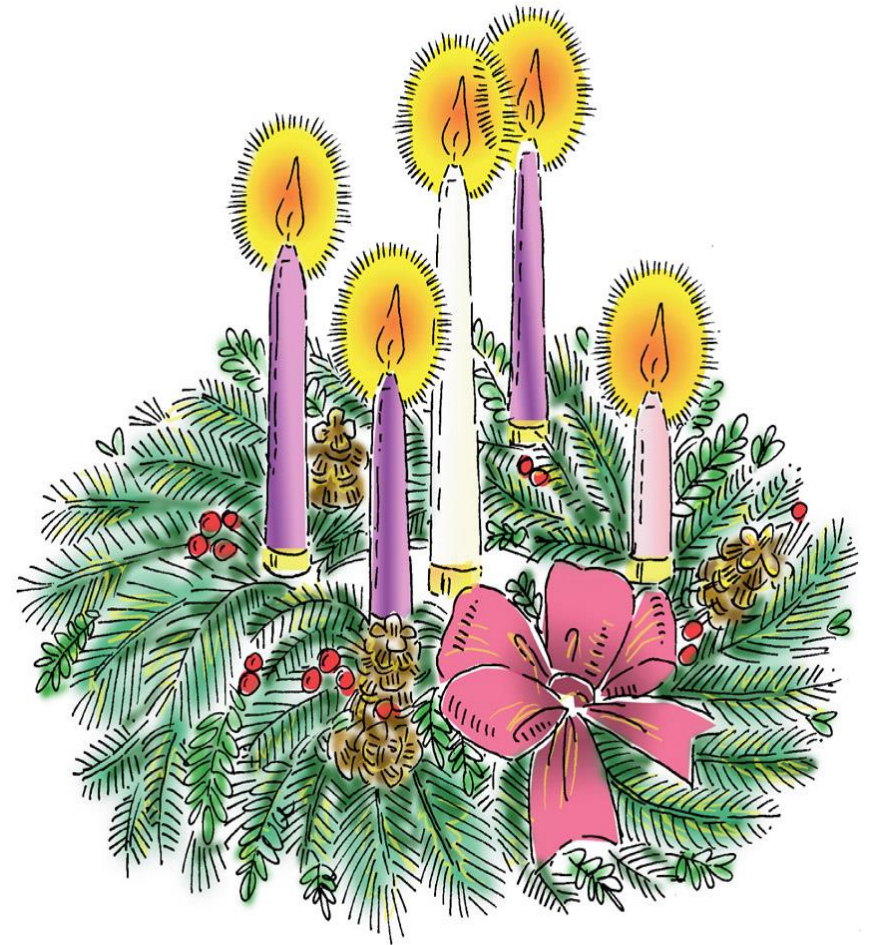
Hospital & Nursing Home

Stella Carlson/Rivers Edge (Rich's Mother)
Corrine Chen/Arbor Glen
Susan Lofstrom/Brighton Gardens
Brenda Savidge/Avalon

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!

"We are becoming fishers of people" Mark 1: 16-20

Christmas Eve



Candle Light Service **First Baptist Church**

132 West High Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
Pastor Loreno R. Flemmings
Conrad Erdt, Director of
Music

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Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
December 24, 2015

Organ Prelude:

Ruth Mueller

Welcome

Fellowship Period (Extending God's Love to one another)

Deacon Robert Bryant

Call to Worship: Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Robert, Wanda and Tyler Hope

Leader: This is the long night, this is the dark night
When those who listen await his cry.
This is the eve of the great nativity
When those who are longing await his appearing.

People: **Wait, with watchful heart**

Leader: This night is born, Jesus
Son of the King of glory
This night is born to us
The hope of peace

People: **Baby Jesus, Prince of Peace!**

Leader: This night gleamed sea and shore together
This night was born Christ, the King of greatness
Surely the light of the world has come,
And, unspeakable joy fills this place.

People: **Hail to the King, Blessed is he!**

In me, Lord Jesus, let there be joy!

(Adapted from Celtic Daily Prayer).

Invocation (In unison)

Gracious God, with joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time. Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors."

This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise:** "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Blue # 145

The First Reading: The Prophet foretells the Savior's coming
Isaiah 9:1-7

Hank Moore
Pew Bible Page 1072

***Hymn:** "Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming" (1&2)

Blue # 160

The Second Reading: The Coming of Jesus Is Announced to Mary and Joseph
Matthew 1:18-25

Ian Bryant
Pew Bible Page 1497

***Hymn:** "What Child is This?" (1&2)

Blue # 137

Sharing God's Blessings of Thanksgiving:

Offertory Sentence (In Unison)

"When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

Matthew 2: 10-11

Special Music:

Ruth Mueller

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Pastor Flemmings

The Third Reading: The Birth of Jesus (Christ Child placed in Manger) Rev. J Kenneth Mart
Luke 2:1-7
Pew Bible Page 1590

***Hymn:** "Joy to the World" (1&4)

Blue # 125

The Forth Reading: The Shepherds go to the Manger
Luke 2: 8-20

Barbara Lane
Pew Bible Page 1591

***Hymn:** "The First Noel"(1-3)

Blue # 137

Scripture Reading:

Old Testament: Isaiah 12: 3-6

Pew Bible pages No. 1078

New Testament: Luke 2: 12-14

Pew Bible pages No. 1591

Christmas Message: "Remember the Wrapping"

Pastor Flemmings

***Hymn of Commitment:** "O Holy Night"

Blue # 148

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT

Worshippers are cautioned not to tip burning candles. Hot wax spills. When lighting your candle tip your unlit candle into those candles that are already lit.

***Hymn:** "Silent Night "

Blue # 147

Prayers of the People

Benediction (In unison)

We are filled with joy for we have heard good news of great joy.
We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God's great love.
We are filled with hope for the angels still sing in our world
and there is a Light for us to follow.

Amen: "Denmark"

Blue # 628

Organ Postlude:

Ruth Mueller