

Your offerings of non-perishable food will benefit Rosie's Place.


**Star Bearers:**

Children of the Congregation

**Musicians:**

Audrey Cienniwa, cello

Bob Winkley, piano

First Church in Boston,  
Gathered 1630  Gather-  
in Friendship, Freedom, and



Unitarian Universalist  
ing Today  
Love

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Rev. Stephen Kendrick, Senior Minister	Rev. Rosemary Lloyd, Assistant Minister
Ruth Owen, Director of Religious Education	Rebekah Ingram, Ministerial Intern
Howie Fuguet, Chair of Trustees	Paul Wendelgass, Standing Committee Chair
Dr. Paul Cienniwa, Music Director	Ellen Meyers and Bill Rabbitt Administrator and Facilities Manager



**CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICE  
DECEMBER 24, 2006**



**Prelude**

Improvisation on French Noëls  
Audrey Cienniwa, cello

**Introit**

Ringling Society of First Church

**Invocation** Words from the prophet Isaiah

**Processional**

*Once in Royal David's City*  
Verse one treble soloist  
Verse two Choir  
Verse three Choir and Congregation

**From afar three magi journeyed  
to that stable rude and bare,  
to pay homage to the infant  
offering gifts both rich and rare;  
so may we our gifts bestow  
whether we be high or low.**

**Lighting the Yule Log**

**Words of Welcome**

Revs. Stephen Kendrick  
and Rosemary Lloyd

**Beneath the angel strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And man, at war with man hears not  
The love song which they bring.  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing.**

**The Imperishable Flame**

Rev. Kendrick

**Carol 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,  
Child 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.**

Please gently extinguish the candle light at the end of this final carol. Use caution: hold candle upright until the wax hardens to prevent molten wax from dripping on clothes or upholstery. Ushers will collect your candles as you quietly exit the Sanctuary. May you carry the light and hope of Christmas in your heart.

repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground.  
Let righteousness its glories show  
as far as love is found,  
as far as love is found,  
as far, as far as love is found.

#### Reflection

What Child?

Rev. Stephen Kendrick

#### Lesson Five

The Wise Men Come

Michael Walczak

**Carol** It came upon a midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth;  
To touch their harps of gold;  
“Peace on earth, good will to all  
From Heaven’s all gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled;  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O’er all the weary world.  
Above it’s sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing  
And ever o’er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

But with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;

**Carol** 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;  
ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus, ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus,  
ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus, Do-mi-num.

Lo, humble shepherds, hasting to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks in the fields draw near.  
We, too, with gladness, thither bend our  
footsteps;  
ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus, ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus,  
ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus, Do-mi-num.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
O sing all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;  
ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus, ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus,  
ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus, Do-mi-num.

#### Reading

The Emperor’s Tea

Ruth Owen

#### Anthem

*O Men from the Fields*  
Arnold Cooke (1906-2005)

#### Lesson One

The Angels Appear to Mary

Fern Beck

**Carol** 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 wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth.  
Let praises ring; from God they bring  
good will to all on earth.**

### **Lesson Two**

The Birth

Dylan Uscher

**Carol The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds,  
in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the king of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star,  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave a great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell  
Born is the king of Israel.**

**And by the light of that same star,  
three magi came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell  
Born is the king of Israel.**

### **Lesson Three**

The Shepherds Hear the Angel

Lynne Byall Benson

### **Reading**

Rev. Lloyd and Ruth Owen

*Each Night a Child is Born*

by Sophia Lyon Fahs

(People may come forward and light  
a candle for any child or grandchild  
born or adopted this year.)

### **Anthem**

*Lullay, My Liking*

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

### **Lesson Four**

The Manger

Jacob Jonas-Closs

### **Prayer**

Rebekah Ingram

### **Offertory**

Rev. Kendrick

The Christmas offering will be donated to the  
Rhys Williams Ministerial Scholarship Fund and  
the Lend A Hand Society.

### **Offertory Music**

*Here We Come A-Wassailing*

English trad., arr. J. Rutter      Bob Winkley, piano

**Carol Joy to the world! The Lord is come,  
let earth with praises ring;  
let every heart prepare a room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.  
Joy to the earth! Now gladness reigns:  
let hearts their songs employ,  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,**