



First Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Ann Arbor



December 24, 2025

🎄 6:00 and 8:00 pm 🎄

**The Importance of Witness:
Lessons and Carols for Christmas Eve**

Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti | Stella Gorlin | rev. theresa rohlck
Joe Libin | Crystal Collins | Forrest Ballou | Allison Halerz
Dusty Francis | The Chalice Bells | The Chalice Singers | Edward Norton

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

Twos in the Moon of Wintertime arr. Susan T. Nelson
The Chalice Bells

SLT 253 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

WELCOME

LIGHTING the CHALICE

INVITING the OFFERING

Tonight's offering goes to the **Minister's Discretionary Fund (MDF) at First UUAA**. You may give online at uuuaa.org/giving; text "uuuaa" to 73256; or leave a check or cash in the offering baskets.

OFFERTORY

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella arr. Lloyd Larson
The Chalice Singers

LESSON

Christmas Carol by Sara Teasdale

CAROL

SLT 228 *Once in Royal David's City*

LESSON	<i>The First Noel</i> by Sara Etgen-Baker
CAROL	SLT 231 <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>
LESSON	<i>The Meeting Place</i> by Christopher Pilling
CAROL	SLT 259 <i>We Three Kings of Orient Are</i>
LESSON	<i>The Oxen</i> by Thomas Hardy
ANTHEM	<i>The Shepherd's Carol</i> by Bob Chilcott The Chalice Singers
HOMILY	
ANTHEM	<i>Bethlehem Dreams</i> by Lewis Redner, arr. Linda R. Lamb The Chalice Bells
LIGHTING of the CANDLES	
SINGING	SLT 251 <i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i>
EXTINGUISHING the CANDLES	
BENEDICTION	

***UUAA will be closed on Sunday Dec. 28.
There will be NO IN-PERSON WORSHIP that morning.***

***You are invited to join the Church of the Larger Fellowship's services that weekend.
Information at <https://www.questformeaning.org/whentoworship/>***

IN-PERSON SERVICES RESUME ON SUNDAY JANUARY 4 at 9:30 and 11:30 am.

SLT 253 O 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;

Chorus

Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus Dominum.

Lo, humble shepherds, hasting to his cradle,
leaving their flocks in the fields, draw near.
We, too, with gladness, thither bend our footsteps;

Chorus

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Chorus

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella arr. Lloyd Larson

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella!
Bring a torch, to the cradle run!
It is Jesus, good folk of the village;
Christ is born and Mary's calling.
Ah! Ah! Beautiful is the Mother!
Ah! Ah! Beautiful is her Son!

Hasten now, good folk of the village,
Hasten now, the Christ-child to see
You will find Him asleep in the manger;
Quietly come, and whisper softly.
Hush! Hush! Peacefully now He slumbers.
Hush! Hush! Peacefully now He sleeps.

Christ is born this holy night!

SLT 228 Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed;
so may we when life turns hard find in love our stay and guard.

Shepherds came to see this wonder, and to kneel in holy awe
at that lowly stable manger where the infant lay on straw;
so may we this happy morn honor every child that's born.

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.

In that happy Christmas spirit, hear the angels from on high
sing their ancient salutations: joy's a gift you cannot buy.
So may we, with heart that sings, share the truth this season brings.

SLT 231 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.

Chorus

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? ***Chorus***

See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. ***Chorus***

SLT 259 We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Chorus

O Star of wonder, star of light, star, with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us through this perfect night.

Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh.
Prayer and praising, all are raising, worship God most high.

Chorus

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Chorus

Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
love forever, ceasing never, in our hearts to reign.

Chorus

The Shepherd's Carol by Bob Chilcott

We stood on the hills, Lady,
Our day's work done,
Watching the frosted meadows
That winter had won.

The evening was calm, Lady,
The air so still,
Silence more lovely than music
Folded the hill.

There was a star, Lady,
Shone in the night,
Larger than Venus it was
And bright, so bright.

Oh, a voice from the sky, Lady,
It seemed to us then
Telling of God being born
In the world of men.

And so we have come, Lady,
Our day's work done,
Our love, our hopes, ourselves,
We give to your son.

SLT 251 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,"
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
child of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.