

# Christmas Pageant

December 24, 2015 4:00pm

***Please note:*** Children may stand on the pews after removing their shoes. Fire codes prohibit giving candles to children. Please remain seated for hymns except for “O Come, All Ye Faithful.” and “Go Tell it on the Mountain”.

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

BUILDING BETHLEHEM

THE PROCLAMATION

Narrators

Today, the human and the holy meet in Bethlehem! Today, the earth rings with the song of children. A song of peace and love. A song of salvation. Today, Christ is born.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Congregation

**On this day earth shall ring, with the song children sing  
To the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us.  
Peace and love he gave us. Id-e-o-o-o, Id-e-o-o-o,  
Id-e-o, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

THE ANNUNCIATION

Gabriel and Mary

*Gabriel's Message*

Kids Choir

THE DECREE

Narrators

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Congregation

**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 to-night.**

THE STREETS OF BETHLEHEM

Vendors and Innkeepers

*“Is There Room?”*

Written by Cici Hunt  
*Kirby Salerno, Soloist*

NO ROOM IN THE INN

Innkeepers

THE ANIMALS WELCOME THE CHRIST CHILD

Narrators and Animals

*The Friendly Beasts*

Kids Choir

THE MAGI MEET IN JERUSALEM

Narrators and Magi

AN ANGEL APPEARS TO THE SHEPHERDS

Angel, Shepherds

*The First Noel*

Congregation

**The first Noel, the angels 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.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, 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 great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.  
This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.**

A MULTITUDE OF THE HEAVENLY HOSTS

Angels and Narrator

**Angels We Have Heard on High**      Angels Solo and then Congregation

**Solo:** Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be, Which inspire your heavenly song.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

#### THE SHEPHERDS ARRIVE

THE OFFERING    Tonight's offering helps us to continue Christ's work in the world. Thank you for supporting The Congregational Church of Needham's work and its mission.

*Away in a Manger*

Congregation

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid  
down his sweet head.**

**The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord  
Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus,  
no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the  
sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and  
love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.**

*What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest*

**What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch  
are keeping?**

***Refrain:* This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard  
and angels sing. Haste, Haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son  
of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here, the silent Word is  
pleading.**

*Refrain*

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king to own  
him; The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts  
enthroned him.**

*Refrain*

## THE ROYAL PROCESSION

### THE ARRIVAL OF THE MAGI

Magi and Attendants

***We Three Kings of Orient Are***

Magi

Congregation on refrain only

**O-o, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

### THE PROMISE

Narrators

*During the singing of the next hymns, adults and children who would like  
to come closer to the nativity are invited to come to the front of the  
Sanctuary*

***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

Congregation

**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;**

***Refrain:* O come, let us adore him;**

**O come, let us adore him;**

**O come, let us adore him;**

**Christ, the Lord!**

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

*Refrain*

**Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
We would embrace thee, with love and awe;  
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?**

*Refrain*

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;**

*Refrain*

*Go, Tell it on the Mountain*

Congregation

***Refrain:* Go Tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and  
everywhere**

**Go tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born**

**While shepherds kept their watching, Over silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light**

*Refrain*

**The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.**

*Refrain*

**Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn**

*Refrain*

MARY PONDERED ALL THESE THINGS IN HER HEART Narrators

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT

All are invited to share the candlelight. Please observe the following safety notes:

- \* Fire codes prohibit giving candles to children.
- \* When passing the light, the person whose candle is already lit should keep their candle upright while the other person turns theirs diagonally to light it (this keeps wax from dripping.)

- \* When all candles are lit, we will raise them for the final verse of “Silent Night,” then extinguish them by “snuffing” them out after the benediction.
- \* Please deposit candles in the container provided as you exit.

*Silent Night*

Congregation

**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.**

BENEDICTION

*Please raise your candle for the last verse of Silent Night and the benediction, and extinguish them at the end.*

RECESSIONAL CAROL

*Joy to the World*

Congregation

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
 Let earth receive her king; Let every heart prepare him room,  
 And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing, And  
 heaven, and heaven and nature sing.  
 Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:  
 Let all their songs employ;  
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat,  
 Repeat the sounding joy.  
 He rules the world with truth and grace,  
 And makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness,**

**And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love, And wonders,  
Wonders of his love.  
Amen.**

***Parents of Performers!*** After the Pageant, please pick up your children in the Science and Game classroom on the lower level of the building.

## Christmas Pageant 2015 Cast List

**Baby Jesus:** Samuel Hall

**Midwife:** Rena Hall

**Mary:** Courtney Brennan

**Joseph:** Sam Atallah

**Dove:** Catherine Davis

**Rooster:** Kiersten Blume

**Cow:** Lilly Meyi

**Sheep:** Bella George

**Donkey:** Ashley Bradham

**Vendors:** Liam Salerno, Leyna Blume

**Sweepers:** Lina Hurley, Ellie Noonan

**Innkeeper Family 1:** Amy Hurley, Lina Hurley, Ellie Noone

**Innkeeper Family 2:** Jenny, Jake & Josie George, Allison Hunnicutt

**Innkeeper Family 3:** Ken Allen, Leyna Blume, Liam Salerno

**Large Camel:** Jamal Otriz and Alex Morrison

**Small Camel:** Anna Busby

**King's Entourage and Attendants:** Cole Tometsko, Phil Bradham, Sam Bradham, Miles Salerno, Alex Morrison, Connor Hurley

**King 1:** Joy Brewer

**King 2:** Hannah Clifford

**King 3:** Haley Huff

**Narrator 1:** Jackie Allen

**Narrator 2:** Elizabeth Kuhlman

**Shepherds:** Taylor Williams, Caroline Mahar, Adeline Wiesel, Owen Noone, Max Meyi, Adeline Wiesel, Heidi Wiesel, Kirby Salerno, Robert Mahar

**Scary Angel:** Isabel Dirks

**Angel Gabriel:** Claire Dirks

**Angels:** Mariel Conroy, Lucie Salerno, Tess Busby, Ella Tometsko, Laine Wiesel, Stella Wiesel, Mia Allen, Natalie Orr, Abby Orr, Eliza Williams, Nora Gutilla, Tillie Slosser, Katie Memory, Rachel Busby

**Kids Choir:** Leyna, Kiersten, Liam, Miles, Josie, Bella, Allison, Catherine, Alex, Mia, Lina, Natalie, Abby, Jamal, Ellie

**Banner Bearers:** Cotton Family

**Organ:** Sangyoung Kim

**Piano:** Cici Hunt

**Soloist:** Kirby Salerno

**Crew:** Nancy Bradham & Olivia Allen

**Spotlight:** M.E. & Claudia Sesso

**House Lights:** Brendan Rock

**Directors:** Teresa Blume & Heather Salerno



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The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister  
Madelyn Downer, Director of Children &  
Youth Ministries

Valerie Becker, Music Director  
Sangyoung Kim, Interim Organist and Pianist  
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus