**Traditional Lessons and Carols for Christmas Eve**

Welcome

Call to Worship (John 1:1-5)

In the beginning was the Word

And the Word was with God

 **And the word was God.**

The Word was with God in the beginning.

**Everything came into being through the Word,**

And without the Word,

 **Nothing came into being.**

What came into being

Through the Word was life,

 **And the life was the light for all people.**

The light shines in the darkness,

 **And the darkness did not overcome it.**

Prayer of Invocation

Carol O Come, All Ye Faithful

First Lesson Luke 1:26-38 *The message of the angel*

Lighting of the first Advent candle

Carol Angels We Have Heard On High

Second Lesson        Luke 1:39-45 *Good news for two women*

Lighting of the second Advent candle

Carol Joy to the World!

Third Lesson Luke 1:46-55 *Mary’s hymn of praise*

Lighting of the third Advent candle

(Optional Choir or Special Music)

Carol O Little Town of Bethlehem

Fourth Lesson Matthew 1:18-25 *Joseph’s Dream*

Lighting of the fourth Advent candle

Carol It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Fifth Lesson Luke 2:1-20 *The birth of Jesus*

Lighting of the fifth Advent candle (Christ candle)

(Optional additional carol, such as The First Noel, or choral piece/special music)

Invitation to Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offertory

Doxology (#162)

 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him,

 The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

 This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.

 Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Christmas Message

Lighting of the Candles

Carol Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Christmas Prayer

Carol Silent Night! Holy Night!

Benediction

Postlude