



FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2015



Hope is Born in Darkness

Tonight, let us remember the darkness in which the world prepared for Christ's birth and the hope and light he brought to us.

Tonight we enjoy readings and music, and light candles to cast out the darkness and welcome in the light.



“This birth takes place in darkness. And not only is the Son of the heavenly Creator born in this darkness, but you too are born there as a child of the same heavenly Creator and none other.”

— Meister Eckhart

Time of Quiet

Prelude

Instrumental music

—Ethan (cello) & Miranda (violin)—

Call to Worship

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Congregation: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Leader: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

Congregation: We have beheld Christ's glory, God's way has broken into our world the light of Jesus has come to lead us!

Leader: For to us a child is born, to humankind a way out of destruction and despair has been given.

Congregation: In him is life, and this life is the light for all people.

Opening Prayer

—Steve Ramer—

Music

Silent Night, verses 1-3 (#193)

Congregational singing

Reading: The Great Light

Isaiah 9:2-7

Music

What Child is This? (#215)

— Ethan (cello) —

Congregational to sing along

Reading: The Word

John 1: 1-15

Advent Candle Lighting

Music

Away in a Manger (#194)

Congregational singing

Reading: The Birth

Luke 2:1-7

Music

Oh Holy Night

—Saja Butler—

Congregation to join in chorus

Reading: The Shepherds

Luke 2:8-20

Closing Benediction

—Steve Ramer—

Music

“Joy to the World” (#318)

Congregational singing

Feel free to stay for hot chocolate, candy canes, and goodies after the service!

