



FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2024

The Hope of Hospitality



Our fellowship is deeply immersed in the ministry of hospitality. This season we take time to celebrate the significance of the gospel of hospitality.

The birth of Jesus is the incarnation of God's love. When we extend this love, this hospitality by creating community with the poor, we offer the same hope to the world that was delivered on that Christmas night.

Prelude

LIGHT: Light is commonly a symbol of welcome and warmth. Jesus was promoted as the light of the world. The light of Jesus must be placed as high as possible so that all can see it. Here, at FCMF, we have kept the light on for literally hundreds of folks living on our streets.

Song: Creator of the Stars at Night #236

Song: Silent Night # 244

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 and 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.

Reading: John 1:1-5

Song: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming #216

Song: Poor of the Earth #213

ANGELS: Angels are messengers of God's love and wisdom. As we give hospitality to the homeless, who are these angels and what are they telling us of God's grace and love? Angels we have heard on high may actually show up down here at our very doorstep!

Song: The First Noel #250

Reading: Luke 2:8-14

Song: Angels We Have Heard on High #249

MANGER: The manger that hosted the birth of Jesus has become a symbol of simplicity, hope, and hospitality to everyone. As we extend hospitality to those around us who are in jail, on the streets, in poverty, and hungry, we have given hospitality to the one who taught us to do this in the first place.

Songs: What Child is This #267
Helpless and Hungry #268

Reading: Luke 2:4-7 & 15-16

Song: Go Tell It On the Mountain #252

