

## PARDON

Hear the good news. God sent his only Son, Jesus, into the world not to condemn the world but that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

|          |  |     |
|----------|--|-----|
| CAROLS * | <i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i>       | 229 |
|          | <i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i> | 220 |

## HANDBELLS

## SHARING THE LIGHT

|         |                                 |     |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----|
| CAROL * | <i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i> | 239 |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----|

## BENEDICTION

In the hopeless time of sin shadows deep had fallen.  
All the world lay under death, eyes were closed in sleeping.  
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose golden  
Light brings unending joy, brings the endless joy of our hope,  
Highest hope, of our hope's bright dawning, Son beloved of heaven.

(En el Frio Invernal, 233)

## POSTLUDE



*for 145 years shining the light of God's love and grace*

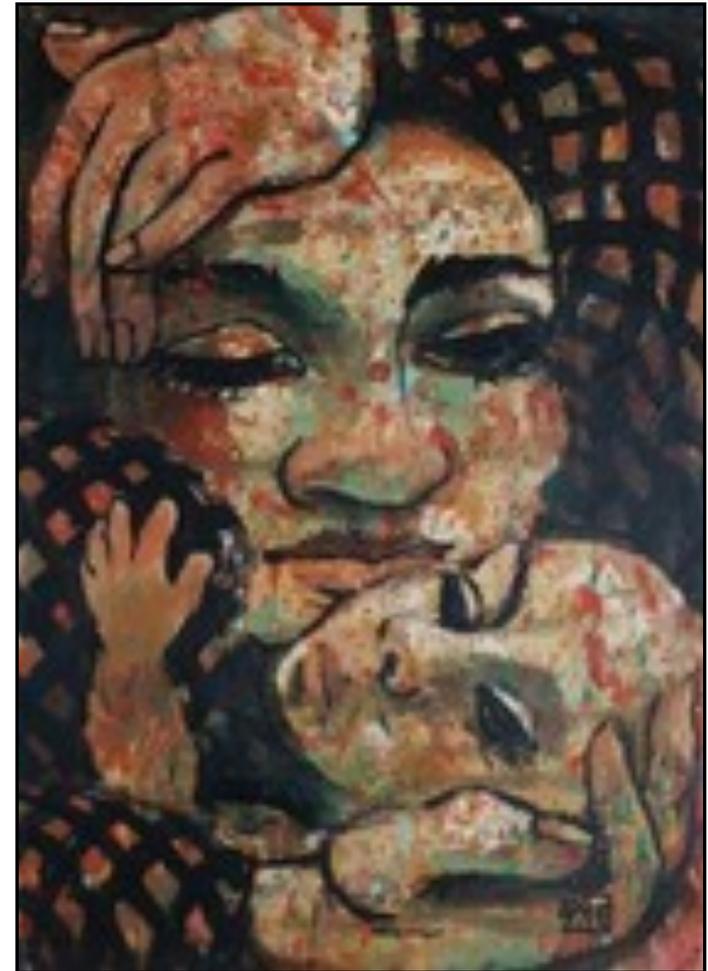
3900 Saint Charles Avenue - New Orleans, Louisiana 70115

504.899.3431 - [www.raynenola.org](http://www.raynenola.org)

December 25, 2021

11 o'clock in the evening

# Christmas Eve



"Third World Madonna, IV," by Wayne Lacson Forte

# THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

*Welcome to All!*

All are invited to participate in any of our activities,  
and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

## GATHERING

Rev. Jay Hogewood

God of fear, God of the night, God of the expectation, you visited shepherds in the night with songs and sights of joy. In all of our nights, turn us towards hope, because hope might just keep us alive. Amen.

Corrymeela Community

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Marissa Teauseau Horvath

Rejoice and sing. **A child is born!**

Let our hearts sing to lift our voices in praise.

**For the Prince of Peace is in our midst.**

Rejoice and sing.

**Christ is born! Our Savior enters our world. Hallelujah. Amen.**

## CAROL \*

*Joy to the World*

246

## PRAYER

May the hope and radiant light of Emmanuel - God with us - be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray:

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, be born in our hearts this night.**

**Shine your light into the darkness of our world that all the earth might know your glorious presence and that all people might find**

**hope in your love and grace. In your glorious name we pray...**

## CAROL \*

*O Come, All Ye Faithful* 234 (Verses 1, 2, 3 & 6)

## THE CHRIST LIGHT

We light this candle and it seems such a simple thing: flame to wick - a quiet act that we would do alone, an act to provide something bright in the midst of gloom. Does this light make much of a difference? Does it change the power of the night that invites us to fear the unknown and all that is unseen? Does this light make the world a better place?

*\*The People Standing*

We light these candles because we have seen a great light; and we trust that increasing that light does make a difference in the world around us. We light these candles because we want to be people who shine God's light; we want to be people who know a God who loves the world so much that this God chose to be born in a manger in the midst of despair and oppression.

We light these candles as a sign of the light of the kingdom of heaven that is coming into our world. We light these candles of peace, hope, joy and love that make our circle complete. We light the center candle as the sign of Christ's presence among us. Let us shine the light of God's grace and glory.

**The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who dwelt in the shadow of death on them a light has shined. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth let there be Love!**

## CHORAL ANTHEM

*O Holy Night*

Cassie Segal

## GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

Luke 2:1-20

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*We welcome you, as your mask remains on, to come forward to share the Bread and Cup. Upon receiving the Meal, simply remove your mask at that moment, then return to your pew with your mask on. Or, if you would like to remain where you are, we welcome you to utilize the Communion packet at your pew.*

## INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## CONFESSION

Almighty God, through your Son, Jesus, you have reconciled the world to yourself. Urge us now to restore our relationships and lead us to accept the good news of great joy - your forgiveness and everlasting love. Lead us to release any guilt or feelings of shame from past mistakes, withholdings, and sin. Encourage us to turn again to you and to your way of loving-kindness. Allow us to enjoy the warmth of your embrace; and encourage us to share your love with others. Inspire us to set aside the cloak of pride and greed and to put on the mercy of Christ that we might forgive as we are forgiven. Through Jesus Christ our Savior we pray. Amen.

*(silence)*