

PRELUDE *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day/* arr. L. Tournquist
◊A time of quiet preparation *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen/* arr. M. Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN 201 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

SCRIPTURE READING

CAROL SING

PRAYER

OFFERING/CHORAL OFFERTORY *Hodie! Alleluia!* /M. Lightfoot
Hodie Christus natus est! Hodie! Alleluia!
Today the angels sing, Today the angels rejoice!
Today the angels sing for joy! Rejoicing, singing alleluia!
Gloria in excelsis, in excelsis!

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 1:18-25 (NIV)

^{1:18} This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

²³ “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.”

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

²⁵ But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

HOMILY

Steadfast Courage and Faith
Rev. Dwight McKay

CLOSING HYMN 218

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

WORDS OF PEACE

POSTLUDE

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing/ arr. L. Larson