

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

♪ **Prelude** · Toni DiCapua

A Triptych for Christmas No. 2 - Peace... Joel Raney

Advent Candle Lighting

Linda Gizzi and Collopy family: Karen, Matt, Carli & Kyle

* ♪ **Hymn of Praise** · O Little Town of Bethlehem
No. 44

Prayer of Confession (in unison) · Lou Pennebaker

God of mercy, a million times a day we have the opportunity to be gracious, to assume the best in others, to give the benefit of the doubt. A million times a day we could choose the better way, but so often we don't. Fear and greed kick in. Assumptions and insecurities take the wheel. Comparison and critique lead the charge. Forgive us for forgetting that we are descendants of Joseph. Forgive us for forgetting that grace and mercy are in our blood. Forgive us for forgetting that all belong to you. Give us the courage to love even bigger than before, and the wisdom to choose a better way. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* ♪ **Gloria Patri**
No. 579

* **Passing of The Peace**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Greetings and Announcements

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading · Faye Wilson

Isaiah 35:1-10 (pg. 1111)

♪ **Anthem** · Chancel Choir

"A French Carol Concertato" ("Angels We Have Heard on High")... arr.

Hal H. Hopson

Richard Dinwiddie, director; Mollie Wakeman, accompanist; Sharon

Dinwiddie, Handbells

(CCLI #20405356)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25 (pg. 1497)

Ministry of the Word · The Rev. Renée Rico

"We Can Choose a Better Way"

Part 4, From Generation to Generation

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* ♪ **Hymn of Response** · Star-Child

See pg. 4 in bulletin

Acknowledgment and Blessing of Offerings

♪ **Anthem** · Chancel Choir

Jesus, Oh! What a Wonderful Child... arr. Mark Hayes


Richard Dinwiddie, director; Mollie Wakeman, accompanist; Richard

Jackson, Soloist

(CCLI #20405356)

Prayers of The People and The Lord's Prayer

4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*  **Closing Hymn** · Go, Tell It on the Mountain
No. 29

* **Benediction**

*  **Congregational Response** · Go Now in Peace

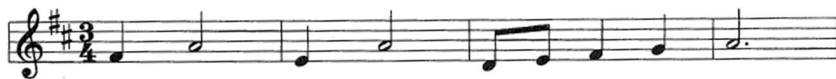
 **Postlude** · Toni DiCapua

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful... Michael Burkhardt

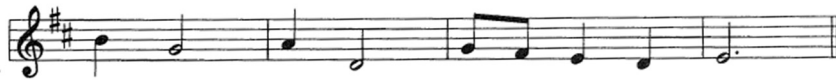


Star-Child

2095



1. Star - Child, earth - Child, go - be-tween of God,
2. Street child, beat child, no place left to go,
3. Grown child, old child, mem-ory full of years,
4. Spared child, spoiled child, hav - ing, want - ing more,
5. Hope - for - peace Child, God's stu-pend - ous sign,

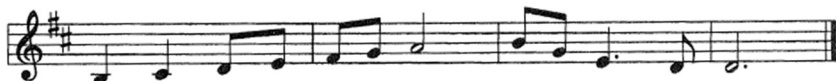


love Child, Christ Child, heav-en's light - ning rod,
hurt child, used child, no one wants to know,
sad child, lost child, sto - ry told in tears,
wise child, faith child, know-ing joy in store,
down - to - earth Child, Star of stars that shine,

Refrain



This year, this year, let the day ar - rive when



Christ-mas comes for ev-ery-one, ev-ery-one a - live!

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray (Matt. 2:1-12)
MUSIC: Carlton R. Young

© 1994 Hope Publishing Co.

STAR CHILD
45.45 with Refrain