

Order Of Service

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Palisades



Christmas Eve - "Birthing a Better World"

Sunday, Dec. 24th, 2022

Rev. Sonia Ketchian

CALL TO MINDFULNESS

PRELUDE - Angels We Have Heard On High - Sarah McLachlan

WELCOME / LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

CHALICE LIGHTING - The Holy Dwells in Each of Us - Renee Ruchotzke

Video HYMN # 244 It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

READING #615 The Work of Christmas by Howard Thurman - Rev. Elizabeth Burgert

YouTube Video HYMN # 259 We Three Kings Of Orient Are

READING #653 Reflections on the Resurgence of Joy by Dori Jeanine Somers - Rev. Pippa Jones

MEDITATION

INTERLUDE - #388 Dona Nobis Pacem

YouTube Music only <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pig17TnUIQA>

SERMON "Birthing a Better World"

OFFERING PLATE

<https://uucpalisades.org/product/make-a-donation-to-uucp/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANDLE LIGHTING

POSTLUDE HYMN # 251 Silent Night

CLOSING WORDS CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

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*LYRICS***Angels We Have Heard On High - Sarah McLachlan**

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains  
Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord the newborn King  
Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Gloria in excelsis Deo  
See him in a manger laid  
Whom the choirs and the angels play  
Mary, Joseph lend your aid  
Why our hearts seem loved the rain  
Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Gloria in excelsis Deo

### **HYMN #244 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

1 It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, to all good will, from heaven the news we bring." The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

2 Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled; and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world. Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing; and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

3 But with the woes of war and strife the world has suffered long; beneath the angel-strain have rolled two thousand years of wrong; and we who fight the wars hear not the love song which they bring. O hush the noise of battle strife, and hear the angels sing.

4 For, lo! the days are hastening on by prophet bards foretold, when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold: when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

### **HYMN #259 We Three Kings of Orient Are**

1 We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

(Chorus) O Star of wonder, star of light, star, with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us through this perfect night.

2 Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh. Prayer and praising, all are raising, worship God most high. (Chorus)

3 Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. (Chorus)

4 Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, love forever, ceasing never,  
in our hearts to reign. (Chorus)

**HYMN # 251 Silent Night**

1 Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2 Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia,"  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

3 Silent night, holy night! child of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.