

A Service for the Longest Night

December 21, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Entering the Longest Night

Prelude *It is Well with My Soul* arr. Beck
Baxter Jennings, Organist, FBC

Words of Welcome and Explanation Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer, FBC

Call to Worship Pastors and Music Ministers
at CHBC, FBC, and SABC

Invocation Rev. Dr. Mike Hatfield, CHBC

Experiencing the Longest Night

Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST LOUIS
(Stanzas 1 & 4)

A Word from the Prophets Isaiah 9:1-6 Rev. David Cameron, CHBC

Carol *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* ES IST EIN ROS'
ENTSPRUNGEN

A Word from the Gospels John 1: 1-5 Rev. Bonnylee Witt

Carol *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* CAROL

Meditation *Stubborn Hope* Rev. Ashley Harrington, SABC

The Act of Remembering

Prayers of the People Rev. Bonnylee Witt

Duet *In the Bleak Midwinter* CRANHAM
Libby Grammer & William Underwood

A Time of Remembrance Rev. Brian Harrington, SABC
You are invited to light a candle in remembrance of loss, whether through death, loss of a relationship, loss of job, or loss of health; in remembrance of other significant events; to represent Light, even as the darkness of depression or loss of joy surrounds you; or to represent hope for the coming year. Share your remembrances with your church families as you feel led on our Facebook, YouTube, Zoom, or WebEx comment/chat platforms.

Moment of Silence

The Lord's Prayer (*read in unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Carol *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

Blessing and Dismissal Rev. Brian Harrington, SABC

Postlude *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* arr. Lucy Ann Warriner
Tony Sanders, Organist, SABC

Worship Leaders

Chatham Heights Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Mike Hatfield, Pastor
Rev. David Cameron, Associate Pastor
Rob Bailey, Organist

First Baptist Church of Martinsville

Rev. Dr. Libby M. Grammer, Senior Pastor
Mrs. Becky Collins, Minister of Music
Baxter Jennings, Organist

Starling Avenue Baptist Church

Rev. Ashley Harrington, Co-Pastor
Rev. Brian Harrington, Co-Pastor
Tony Sanders, Interim Guest Musician

Rev. Bonnylee Witt, CBF-Endorsed Chaplain

Thank you for sharing these important moments in worship with us. Our prayers this season attend your memories of loved ones who remain dear to you and missed; and your spirit as you experience feelings of anxiety, loneliness, depression, or loss of joy.

If you are experiencing moments of crisis or need during this season, please connect with one of our ministers who will be glad to pray with you over the phone or have a socially-distanced pastoral visit (as is possible).

Below are links to important materials for those experiencing different forms of loss and depression/stress in this season.

Articles/Websites:

[Grief During the Holidays](#)

[Children's Bereavement](#)

[Financial Loss, Grief, & Resilience](#)

[Suicide Survivor's Grief](#)

[Center for Loss & Life Transition](#)

[Depression & Stress During the Holidays](#)

[Mental Health during a Pandemic](#)

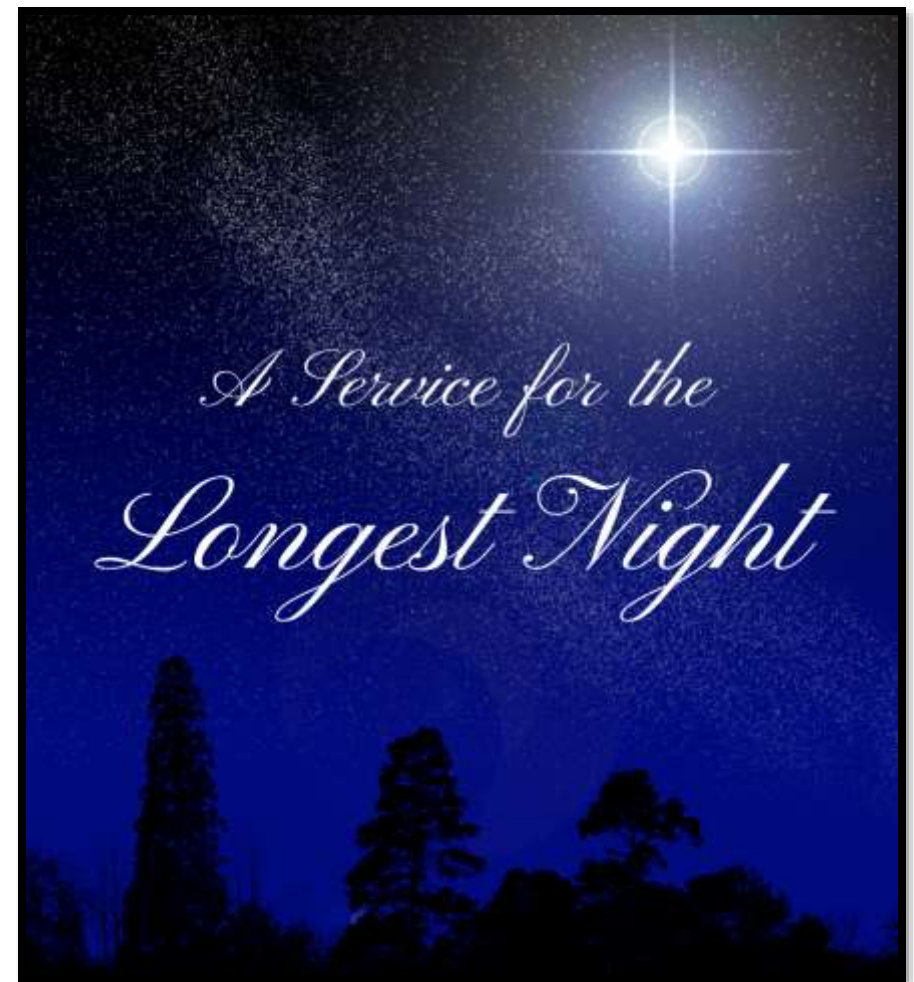
[Coping with Losing a Pet](#)

Books:

[A Healing Grief: Walking with Your Friend Through Loss](#) (Cokesbury, 2002)

[Healing a Spouse's Grieving Heart: 100 Practical Ideas After Your Husband or Wife Dies](#) (Companion Press, 2003)

[Healing the Adult Child's Grieving Heart: 100 Practical Ideas After Your Parent Dies](#) (Companion Press, 2002)



Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem
(Stanzas 1 & 4)

ST LOUIS

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS'
ENTSPRUNGEN

Lo! how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright, Amid the cold of winter,
When half-gone was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright, She bore to men a Savior,
when half gone was the night.
This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor, The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, From sin and death He saves us
and lightens every load.

Carol

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

CAROL

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, good will to men," From heav'n's all gracious King.
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.
Yet with the woes of sin and strife The world has suffered long,
Beneath the angel strain have rolled Two thousand years of wrong;
An man, at war with man, hears not The love song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife, And hear the angels sing!
All ye, beneath life's crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way With painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road, And hear the angels sing!
For lo! the days are hast'ning 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.

Carol

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.