

Arvada Presbyterian Church

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Celebration of Worship

December 31, 2017

First Sunday after Christmas Day

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Carl Kantner

Prelude

Gathering Song

Go, Tell It On the Mountain PH 29

Linda Stackhouse, Soloist

Call to Worship (Lighting the Christ Candle) Marybeth Kantner

From the darkness of Creation, God brought forth Light!

**That Light flooded over the waters of creation, sparkling,
dancing!**

From the fear and alienation, God sent forth a leading Pillar of
Light!

**That Light directed people who were on the path of
freedom.**

From the cries of the people, God offered the lights of Hope.

Those lights beckoned people to God's presence.

From the yearning of the Spirit, God's light was born again in a
child.

That Light shall never be diminished.

All Praise God for the warm light of God's Incarnate Love.
Amen.

Opening Prayer (unison) Marybeth Kantner
God of Surprising Love and Hope, we come this morning to the manger, gazing lovingly on the Child born to bring hope to the world. Open our hearts today as we hear the story anew. Help us to be guided by the Light of Christ into this new year, that we may truly feel the power of Your love and bring that love, with joy, to all we meet. In the name of Emmanuel, we pray.
Amen.

Sing *Still, Still, Still* PH 47

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 8 OT 492 Elder Duane Youse

Reading *A Reading in Two Voices* by Alix Brown

Hymn Sing

Second Scripture Lesson Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 OT 616

Proclaiming

Reflection **WELCOMING A NEW YEAR**
Carl and Marybeth Kantner

Responding

*Sing *If Came Upon the Midnight Clear* PH 38

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music (Prayer Requests Collected)

*Response *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* PH 9 (2)

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Prayer by Carol Dixon

Third Scripture **Luke 2:22-40** NT 59

Reading *The Gate of the Year* by Minnie Louise Haskins

The Blessing *Carrying the Candle* by Jan Sutch Pickard

Closing Song *We Wish You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

Charge and Benediction

*Passing the Peace

Postlude

*Please stand if you're comfortable doing so.

BOLD signifies congregational participation.

CCLI #1708350
GG – Glory to God Hymnal
PH – Presbyterian Hymnal