

# People and Places of the Nativity



First  
Reformed  
Church  
Sibley, Iowa

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

“People and Places of the Nativity”

December 24, 2023

5:00pm

**Prelude:**

Mim Ernst

**Welcome/Call to Worship**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Pam, Jared and Katie Kruger

**Opening Prayer**

**Carol:**

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful” #188 vs 1,3,4*

**Old Testament Reading**

1 Samuel 2:1-10

**New Testament Reading**

Luke 1:39-56

**Carol:**

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” #187 vs 1,2*

### “Nazareth”

**Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 7:14

**New Testament Reading**

Matthew 1:18-25

**Carol:**

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #186 vs 1,3,4*

### “Bethlehem”

**Old Testament Reading**

Micah 5:2-5

**New Testament Reading**

Luke 2:1-7

**Carol:**

*“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” #211 vs 1,2*

## “The Countryside of Judea”

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:6-7

## New Testament Reading

## Luke 2:8-20

**Carol:** *"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" #191 vs 1,2*

## “The Home of the Messiah”

## Old Testament Reading

## Numbers 24:17-19

## New Testament Reading

## Matthew 2:1-12

**Carol:** *"As With Gladness Men of Old"* #219 vs 1,2,4

## Scripture Reading

## 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

## Meditation

### “Bragging About Foolish People and Foolish Places”

## "To the Ends of the Earth"

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-4

## New Testament Reading

## Matthew 28:18-20

**Carol:** *"O Holy Night" #195 vs 1,3*

\*\*\*Passing of the candlelight from Readers to Congregation\*\*\*

(Please keep the lit candle upright and only tip the NON-LIT Candle to meet the flame of the lit candle)

## God's Parting Blessing

**Closing Song:** *“Silent Night” vs 1-3*

*Joyful Voices Choir and Congregation*

*Thank you to the Joyful Voices Choir for their special music, the Kruger family for leading the Advent Candle lighting, Merlyn Janssen and Rhonda Riebeling for scripture reading, as well as those who greeted you at the door.*

*Offering collected tonight will go to support Rise Fest in Sheldon.*

*May the peace and joy of this Christmas  
season fill your hearts and homes with the  
love of God tonight  
and in the year to come.*

*We wish you all a Merry Christmas!!*

