

Risen Christ Lutheran Church Christmas Eve Worship December 24, 2022 4:30pm and 7pm



Rev. Rennie Kaufmann – Pastor Karen Kaufmann – Administrator Miss Esther Kaufmann – Youth Ministries and Worship Arts Assistant Risen Christ Lutheran Church 46250 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170 734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info **ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION** – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ's body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the "individual" and "common" cups of wine. (Note: White Non-Alcoholic Wine is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of **Online Giving** by visiting <u>www.RisenChrist.info</u>

A WORD TO OUR GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you "desire" a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby ("Narthex")

For Children - Children's Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – The days and weeks preceding Christmas are full of hustle and bustle for many. Between parties and shopping, cooking and baking, wrapping and card writing, along with many more things, we are occupied and busy as we anticipate this night and the assured joy to come celebrating the Savior born for us. Over two thousand years ago, though, that wasn't the case. Nobody was prepared for what was to take place. Yet everything soon changed in that little town of Bethlehem. Quietly, unexpectedly, even "like a thief in the night" was born in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, our Lord. Tonight we gather amid the busyness to reflect, rejoice, and ponder anew the joy of our Savior born and to prepare our hearts to receive the greatest gifts ever given and received by and through Him—hope, forgiveness, newness, and an assured promise of eternal life through faith in Him.

Welcome

Christmas Poem read by Kim Cook

Congregation **please stand** and face the processional cross at the rear of the sanctuary.

Invocation, Opening Sentences & Lighting of the Christ Candle John 1:1, 4–5; Isaiah 9:6

- ightharpoonup In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. lacktree Amen.
- P In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- P In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Congregation continues **facing the processional cross** until it is put in place in the chancel.

Joy to the World

- 1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

 Let earth receive its King;

 Let every heart prepare Him room

 And heaven and nature sing,

 and heaven and nature sing,

 And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
- 2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
 Let men their songs employ,
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3. No more let sins and sorrow grow
 Nor thorns infest the ground;
 He comes to make His blessings flow
 Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
 Far as, far as the curse is found.
 - 4. He rules the world with truth and grace
 And makes the nations prove
 The glories of His righteousness
 And wonders of His love,
 and wonders of His love,
 And wonders, wonders of His love.

O Come All Ye Faithful

1. O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him born the king of angels:

> <u>REFRAIN:</u> O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

2. Highest, most holy, light of light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!

REFRAIN

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest; <u>REFRAIN</u>

Introit

Ps. 24:1, 3–5; antiphon: Ps. 2:7

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof.

the world and those who dwell therein.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

He will receive blessing from the LORD

and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray.

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 110:1–4

¹The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

²The Lord sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

³Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

⁴The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind,

"You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

Gradual Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

- To us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder.
- L And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
- **©** Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- L Sing to the Lord a new song, G for He has done marvelous things!

Epistle 1 John 4:7–16

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Verse Matthew 1:21

Alleluia. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel Luke 2:1–20

- In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town.
- And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. 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.

2. How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

- P And while they were there,
- I the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the [bright] sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

- P And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them,
- "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."
- P And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
- "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
 Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the_angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

- 2. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings,
 Ris'n with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by,
 Born that man no more may die,
 Born to raise the sons of earth,
 Born to give them second birth.
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn Kina!"
- P When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,
- III "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

Angels from the Realms of Glory

 Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King. **2.** Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light.

Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.

- P And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.
- And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
- P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to You, O Christ!

Go Tell It on the Mountain

REFRAIN: Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

 While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens There shone a holy light. <u>REFRAIN</u> 2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When Io, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. **REFRAIN**

3. Down in a lonely manger The humble Christ was born; And God sent us salvation That blessèd Christmas morn. **REFRAIN**

Christmas Message by Pastor Rennie

- I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- **P** What does this mean?
- I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at **www.RisenChrist.info** – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a Worship Card so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

4:30pm Special Music – "Silent Night (In Mandarin Chinese)" sung by Mrs. Qi Schwarz

平安夜, 圣善夜!

万暗中. 光华射.

照着圣母也照着圣嬰, 多少慈祥也多少天真,

静享天赐安眠,静享天赐安眠。

平安夜, 圣善夜!

牧羊人, 在旷野,

忽然看见了天上光华.

听见天军唱哈利路亚.

救主今夜降生, 救主今夜降生!

平安夜. 圣善夜!

神子爱,光皎洁,

救赎宏恩的黎明来到,

圣容发出来荣光普照.

耶稣我主降生,耶稣我主降生!

píngānyè, shèngshànyè!
wànàn zhōng, guānghuá shè,
zhào zhe shèngmǔ yě zhào zhe
shèngyīng,
duōshǎo cíxiáng yě duōshǎo tiānzhēn,
jìngxiǎng tiāncì ānmián,

píngānyè, shèngshànyè! mùyángrén, zài kuàngyě, hūrán kànjiàn le tianshàng guānghuá, tīngjiàn tiānjūn chàng hālìlùyà, jiùzhǔ jīnyè jiàngshēng, jiùzhǔ jīnyè jiàngshēng!

jìngxiǎng tiāncì ānmián.

píngānyè, shèngshànyè! shénzǐ ài, guāngjiǎjié, jiùshú hóngēn de límíng láidào, shèngróng fāchū láiróng guāngpǔzhào, yēsū wŏ zhǔ jiàngshēng, yēsū wŏ zhǔ jiàngshēng!

7pm Special Music "Be Born in Me" sung by Miss Esther Kaufmann

Prayer of the Church

- Father, with joy and wonder we gather around the manger on this night as we recall how great is Your love for us, sending Your Son into our world wrapped in our flesh as a tiny child to forgive our sins.
- Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.
- <u>MEN –</u> Jesus, on this night we recall how great is Your love for us. You gave up heaven to live on earth as one of us, and one with us, to forgive our sin.
- Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.
- <u>WOMEN –</u> Holy Spirit, on this night we recall how great is Your love for us, gathering us together through the waters of Baptism and nourishing our faith through the Word and by the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sin.
- Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift given, received in faith, and kept unto life eternal.
- <u>MEN –</u> Gracious Lord, we pray that we not shut the Lord Jesus out of our hearts, but be ever ready to welcome Him as He comes to us still today, while awaiting the Last Day when He comes as a thief in the night, not born in our flesh but to resurrect all flesh and to make all things new. Lord, in Your mercy, **©** hear our prayer.
- <u>WOMEN –</u> Everlasting Lord, we pray that we see Jesus not only as the baby of Bethlehem, but also honor Him as the Christ of the cross and recognize the majesty of the King of kings and Lord of lords, both humbly adoring and proudly proclaiming Him as our King and Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- <u>MEN -</u> Renewing Lord, let the Good News of Christmas inspire a renewing of hope, faith, joy, wonder, and witness in our hearts, our homes, in this congregation, and in the Church throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy, **Q** hear our prayer.
- P Comforting Lord, we lift up all those who lack joy this Christmastime due to afflictions spiritually, mentally, and physically. We lift up those who request our prayers, and those we name in our hearts [time for silent prayer]. Grant that the hope and promise found in a Savior born for them will give peace in times of trial. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through the Savior born for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Hebrews 9:26

- P As we prepare to celebrate our Lord's birth and receive Him as He still comes to us today, let us also remember the reason Jesus was born: "He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." He has come to bring peace, yet not always in ways we can see in this world. He has come to bring peace, yet not always in ways we can see in ourselves in our thoughts, words, and actions. He has come to bring peace that is forgiveness of sins and peace with our Father in heaven.
- We confess that we have sinned against God and against one another. We yearn for peace with God and reconciliation with one another, yet we cannot accomplish it ourselves. Forgive us, Lord, and restore our souls, that our lives reflect not our sin, but the joy of the birth of Your only Son into the world.

- P Jesus is Immanuel, which means "God with us." What we are powerless to do, He has done for us. His name is Jesus, the name that means He has "come to save us from our sins." Know the peace He has come to bring; live it with others and share it with all. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

Lift Up Your Hearts

P The Lord be with you

And also with you

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

CCLI Song # 3493609

Steve Hindalong Terry Scott Taylor

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All Sing

We lift them to the Lord Let us give thanks To the Lord our God It is right to give Him Thanks and praise

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P Blessed are You, Lord our God, for You have had mercy on us and entered human history like a thief in the night through the gracious gift of Your Son, Jesus, that we with joy and in faith receive Your gifts. Christ fulfilled all prophecy and was born of a virgin so that He might live a perfect and blameless life, die on a cross, rise from the dead, and proclaim victory over all we ever need fear. We give thanks for the assurance of heaven He won for us. Grant us now that we faithfully receive Him as the gift for us wrapped in, with, and under bread and wine, together with the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. To You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all praise and glory now and forever.
- Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My -I- blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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 and ever. Amen.

Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Please be seated. The ushers will direct those taking communion. For those not communing, you are invited to pray and sing.

Communion

What Child Is This

1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

2. Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you; Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him. The King of Kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
 Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby; Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

The First Noel

1. The first noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel! **2.** They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east, beyond them far; And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night.

Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

We Have Heard on High

 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! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

2. 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!

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Christ Whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

> Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria. in excelsis Deo!

Lighting of the Candles (During following song)

"O du fröhliche"

(at 4:30pm sung by the Schwarz Family)

Auf Deutsch

O du fröhliche, o du selige, gnadenbringende Weihnachtszeit! Welt ging verloren, Christ ist geboren: Freue, freue dich, o Christenheit!

O du fröhliche, o du selige, gnadenbringende Weihnachtszeit! Christ ist erschienen, uns zu versöhnen: Freue, freue dich, o Christenheit!

O du fröhliche, o du selige, gnadenbringende Weihnachtszeit! Himmlische Heere jauchzen Dir Ehre: Freue, freue dich, o Christenheit!

English Translation

O you joyful, O you blessed, grace-bringing Christmas time! The world was lost, Christ was born: Rejoice, rejoice, O Christendom!

O you joyful, O you blessed, grace-bringing Christmas time! Christ appeared to atone for us: Rejoice, rejoice, O Christendom!

O you joyful, O you blessed, grace-bringing Christmas time! Heavenly armies rejoice in your honor: Rejoice, rejoice, O Christendom!

O Holy Night (at 7pm)

- O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
 Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
 Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth, A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
 For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
 Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices,
 O night divine, O night when Christ was born, O night divine, O night, O night divine.
- 2. Truly He taught us to love one another;
 His law is love and His gospel is peace.
 Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;
 And in His name all oppression shall cease.
 Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
 Let all within us praise His holy name.
 Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,
 His power and glory evermore proclaim.
 O night divine, O night, O night divine

Silent Night (Stille Nacht)

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

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!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Benediction

- P Christmas peace and joy through Christ, His only-begotten Son, be yours. The blessing of God almighty—Father, → Son, and Holy Spirit—be and abide with you forever.
- C Amen.

++Carefully place hand in front of candle and gently blow it out.++ MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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