

# Traditional Christmas Eve Service

**DECEMBER 24, 2022 @ 7:30 PM**

**Gathering Music**

**"Visit Us, Emmanuel"**

**Composed by Mark Hayes**

**Greeting**

**Rev. Sharon Kichline**

**Lighting the Advent Candles**

**The Morse and Nunes Families**

*Rev. Gene and Lettie, Lydia, Camille, Lily and Julian*

**Advent Prayer**

**In Unison**

Lord, you came as a tiny, fragile baby; yet we know that you are God and you are with us. May the flame of the Christ candle to come remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

This we pray in your name, Amen.

**\*Advent Proclamation**

**Jan McCurley**

Leader: Tonight, we kneel with people all over the earth in the presence of the Most High.

**People: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.**

Leader: As we have been washed by the light, let us enlighten.

**People: As we have been found, let us seek out the lost.**

Leader: As we have been liberated, let us set the captives free.

**Unison: For to us a child is born; One whom God sends to bring peace and light, freedom and reconciliation. Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn**

**"O Come All Ye Faithful"**

**UMH 234 (vs. 1, 3, 5, 6)**

**\*Christmas Prayer**

**In Unison**

God who labors to bring forth abundant life among us, we thank you for the birth we celebrate tonight. A newborn bundle of human life can cause us to gaze for hours, amazed. Refresh our amazement that you sent Jesus to us from your very self, to be born as a human baby, and to live among us, showing us the way to new life. In response to your great labor of love, may we open ourselves to you, that you may create new life among us. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we pray. Amen.

**Collection of Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Pastor Sharon**

**\*Doxology and Blessing our Offerings**

Prayers for the People

# "Lessons & Carols"

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Clay Grumke

*The prophet announces the birth of a King to a people in darkness.*

\*Hymn

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

UMH 196

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Chris Redmore

*The King will usher in a Reign of Justice and Peace.*

Anthem

"Light of the World" – Composed by Pepper Choplin

Beth Anderson (Soloist)

Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Jillian Pallia

*Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will bear God's Son.*

Anthem

"Carol of Remembrance" – Composed by J. Paul Williams

Barb Sarich (Soprano), Debbie Lund (Alto), Jim Ballard (Tenor), & Clay Grumke (Bass)

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Debbie Lund

*Joseph and Mary Journey to Bethlehem: the Christ Child is Born*

Anthem

"All is Well" – Composed by Michael W. Smith

Barb Sarich (Soloist)

Christmas Message

Pastor Sharon

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you! *The Christ Candle is lit.*

People: We no longer have to fear the darkness for our Light has come!

Holy Communion

Pink Sheet

*In our church, all are welcome to come to The Lord's Table.*

*If you would like to participate, please come forward as the ushers direct.*

**Passing the Light of Christ**

*We invite you to receive the light from your neighbor*

*by turning your candle horizontal so that their lit candle can remain upright.*

\*Closing Hymn

"Silent Night"

UMH 239

\*Christmas Blessing

\*Sending Forth

**We invite you to join us for our casual Café Christmas Worship Service tomorrow at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall.**

**May the peace of Christ be with you this night and always!**

*Merry Christmas!*