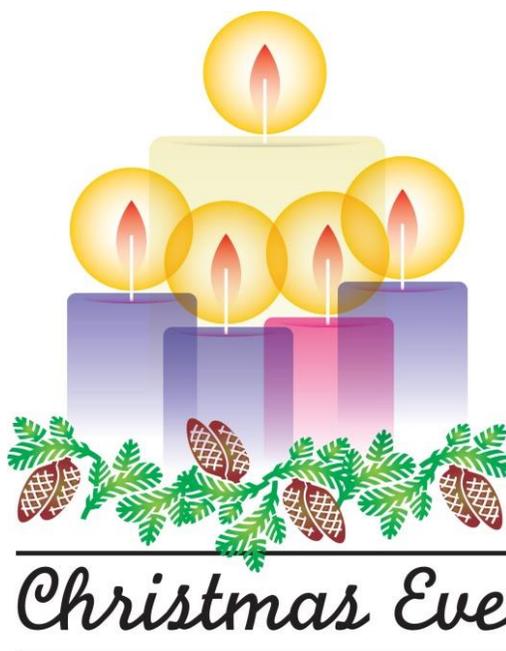


DECEMBER 24, 2021
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

CHRISTMAS EVE
Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Vivian Rodeffer

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On this holiest of nights,
we come, joining the shepherds who are stunned by wonder.
On this most silent night,
we come, our hopes and dreams joining those of Mary and Joseph.
On this nights of carols and candlelight,
we come, our glad songs joining with the choirs of angels over us.

*HYMN #234

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

**1. O come all ye faithful joyful and triumphant
Oh come ye O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the King of angels;
Oh come let us adore Him, Oh come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord**

**2. Sing choirs of angels sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God all glory in the highest:
Oh come let us adore Him,
Oh come let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord**

PRAYER

O God of love, you have brought us together tonight and blessed us with your very self. Open our eyes to the light of Christ which glows in the darkness of a world separated from you. Speak to us now that we may hear the good news of your salvation. Bring us into the wonder of your presence. Fill us with that light and carry it out with us into our lives. Amen.

SCRIPTURE**Isaiah 9: 2-7****Jeannie Laureano, Reader**

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
They rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do
this.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE**FINDING THE TREASURE OF CHRISTMAS****OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

The offering plate remains in the back of the sanctuary for your donations before or after the service.

***DEDICATION PRAYER**

**Glory to God in the highest heaven! We praise your name with our offerings,
and give these gifts in recognition of Jesus, a tiny baby who from humble birth was
created great in your light. Thank you, Gracious God, for pure, unbounded love lying
in a manger. Let the joy we feel in our hearts overflow in unending praise. Amen.**

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God for gifts of hope and peace
Praise God for gifts of joy and love.
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell,
On earth for us – Emmanuel. Amen.**

LITURGY OF LIGHT**Jeannie Laureano**

After counting the weeks of Advent, we have come to Christmas Eve.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. Isaiah 9:2

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. John 1:9

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

At this time the Christ Candle is lighted in the center of the Advent Wreath by Pastor Viv.

Glory to God in the highest! We give thanks for the birth of Jesus Christ, God with us.

SUNG RESPONSE**“O Holy Night”****Aisha Lettsome, Solo****SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING**

The ushers, will then light the candles of the first person on each aisle. After all candles are lighted we will sing Silent Night.

HYMN #239*“Silent Night, Holy Night”**

**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.**

***UNISON PRAYER**

**Gracious God,
In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts
that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time.
Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world.
Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts,
"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors."
This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.**

***HYMN #246**

“Joy To The World”

**1. Joy to the World , the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her 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 World, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and
plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

You may extinguish your candles

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

***Stand as able**

MAY YOU HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS DAY!

Heads Up!

THIS SUNDAY MORNING, December 26th, the joy of Christmas continues! Join us at 10 am for Christmas hymns and a time of year-end sharing. On Zoom Only. See you then!

YOU MAY TAKE YOUR POINSETTIAS at the end of this evening’s service. Thank you for helping to make our sanctuary so beautiful this evening.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2022 are available in the rear of the sanctuary. If you have not yet been assigned envelopes but wish to take a blank set, please sign the numbered list by the undesignated envelopes. Envelopes not picked up by the second week of January will be mailed.