

May The Lord

**May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor
Lift up your eyes and see God's face, full of grace forever;
May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.**
(Please extinguish your candles and leave them in the
baskets provided as you leave the sanctuary taking a small
gift of Christmas love with you as you go.)

Postlude

**May the Blessings of Christmas enfold you and your family
and uphold you into the New Year !**

The poinsettias decorating the sanctuary today are given in Dedication to:
"Come All Ye Faithful".....Ken & Mary Ellen Campbell
In loving memory of my parents.....Marilyn McAfee
Thank God for All our Blessings.....Rick & Kay Amendola
In loving memory of my husband.....Darlene Smith
"Immanuel, God With Us!.....Pat Gibson
In loving memory of Rev. John R and George W. Cole.....The Bandfield Family
In memory of Jeanne Rex, Dick Byers, and Dick Burtch.....The Burtch Family
"Joy To The World".....Ken & Mary Ellen Campbell
In memory of Fred's parents and Bev's father.....Fred & Bev King
In memory of Jack Hughes and my parents.....Louise Hughes
In memory of John Durrant.....The Durrant Family
"Joy To The World, Indeed He Has Come".....Web & Woody Cole
In memory of Solomon and Hazel Humberger.....The Durrant Family
"Peace on Earth".....Isabella Wu



The Chancel Guild thanks all who have made our sanctuary beautiful this Advent Season. Poinsettia plants may be taken home after the 7:00pm Christmas Eve service. Any plants left after the service will be delivered to shut-ins.

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7:00 PM



Welcome to worship with the Fairgreen family! The * symbol means, "All who are able, please stand." † indicates when latecomers may be seated.



Christmas Eve

PRELUDE The Praise Band
WELCOME ~ Please sign fellowship book found in pews.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

INTROIT "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" The Praise Band

CALL TO WORSHIP ~ Rev. Pat

Dazzling light on a dark night.
Angelic songs on a silent night.
Wonderful news! Surprising Good News.
The promised Messiah is born! A new Prince of Peace has come.
Rejoice! For on this star-bright, holy night the angels still sing!
They bid us seek the holy in the midst of the ordinary.
They call us to look into the eyes of a child and see God.
They urge us to sing and dance all the way to Bethlehem.
Rejoice! For on this star-bright, holy night, the angels sill sing.

*UNISON PRAYER OF PRAISE AND INVOCATION
Holy God, come into this holy night with stars to light our way to the cradle of peace. Come with angels to sing to us of a deep joy. Come to this moment and open our hearts so we may hear the familiar story new and fresh. Surprise us and remind us that the child in the manger is Immanuel— God with us, now and always. Amen.

*HYMN # 40 "Joy to the World"

THE WORD OF THE LORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION ~ Bill Henning
First Reading ~ Isaiah 9: 2-7 ~ Bill Henning
Special Music ~ "Mary Did You Know" Anne Rubley

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH ~ The Gift of Light

Second Reading ~ Luke 2: 1-20
Anthem ~ "It's Still the Greatest Story Ever Told" The Praise Band

Christmas Homily ~ Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer
"We Absolutely Must Take Christ Out of Christmas!"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Response ~ #41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

The Offering and the Christmas Joy Offering Bill Henning
Offertory ~ Anthem ~ "Dona Nobis Pacem" Geneva Choir

*Doxology for Christmas
Praise God whose Son was born this night.
Praise Christ who came to give us light.
Praise Holy Spirit, Three in One;
Let praises ring, thy will be done. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication Rev. Pat

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer
Special Music ~ "O Holy Night" Jeff Wilczynski & Shannon Smith

The Candle Lighting Liturgy ~ *Confirmands Emma Bosley Smith, Jody Skinner, Aaron Winslow*

Emma: Our Christmas journey has seen Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem, and the wonder of having their baby Jesus be born. We have seen shepherds celebrating. We have journeyed with them in our time and given thanks for the precious gift of Jesus in our hearts, and in our world. (Aaron lights the four Advent candles.)

Jody: Of course, our journey doesn't stop here at the manger, any more than Jesus' life stopped there. But something is different. God's presence is more clearly seen. Tonight we celebrate the gift of light for a light shines in the darkness to guide our way as we journey from here.

Emma: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." Let us now light our Christ candle as a symbol of the light of Jesus, the light that can shine in and through each one of us. (Aaron lights the Christ candle.)

Rev. Pat: As this light of Christ now shines, may the love of Christ truly shine in each one of us. May we be a light for others as we seek to bring God's hope, peace, love, and joy to our world.

(The liturgists and pastor will pass the candlelight through the congregation. Please pass the flame along your row, tipping your unlighted candle into the flame.)

*Hymn of the Holy Birth ~ Silent Night, Holy Night
Charge and Benediction