

December 24, 2018

11:00 pm

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
with Holy Communion**

*Welcome! We're glad you're here.*

*Please sign in using the attendance books along the center aisles.*

PRELUDE: *"Gesù Bambino"* David Lines, Organist  
by Pietro Yon

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES: Acolytes  
Enter with the symbol of the Light of Christ

\* TRINITY BELLS (Stand as you are able)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Loretta Cudney, Liturgist  
(Leader) He's coming! He's coming! The Savior of the World is coming!  
**(People) Let us prepare our hearts to greet him!**  
(Leader) He comes to each one of us, healing and restoring our lives!  
**(People) Praise be to God for God's mighty gift to us.**  
(Leader) O Come, Prince of Peace, bring your light to us!  
**All: We are ready to receive you in our lives! Amen.**

\*LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE / YVONNE FLAGG  
(WHILE LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES & CHRIST CANDLE)

\*WORDS OF CHRIST Loretta Cudney, Liturgist  
Now the time is near! The One who will save us, brings God's light into our world. We light this Christ Candle in celebration of God's most precious gift to us - our Savior Jesus Christ.  
**All: AMEN!**

## Advent Candle Song

<p><b>I</b></p>	<p><b>II</b></p>
<p>1. Light one can - dle:                  2. Light two can - dles:                  3. Light three can - dles:                  4. Light four can - dles:                  5. Light the white one</p>	<p>Christ is com - ing,                  Christ is born, _____</p>
<p>Christ, the Hope of the world.                  Christ, the Peace of the world.                  Christ, the Joy of the world.                  Christ, the Love of the world.                  Christ, the Light of the world.</p>	<p>Light one can - dle:                  Light two can - dles:                  Light three can - dles:                  Light four can - dles:                  Light the white one:</p>
<p>Christ is com - ing,                  Christ is born, _____</p>	<p>Christ is com - ing soon!                  Christ is born to - night!</p>

WORDS and MUSIC: Sally Ahner  
 © 1992 Abingdon Press

\*HYMN #218      *"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"*  
 (Verses 1, 2, and 4 only)

\*OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)

All

(Led by Loretta Cudney, Liturgist)

**Glorious God, who presents us with the most precious of gifts, we praise you for all your blessings in our lives. Tonight we have come to this place, in the midst of a busy time. We might not even have everything ready at home, yet we have come, because we ourselves need to be ready. Work in our hearts this night, preparing us for your presence. Work in our lives that we may reach out to others in comfort and compassion; work in our world that the darkness that has encompassed it may be dispelled by the brightness of your love and your Gift. In faith and expectation, we pray. AMEN.**

BELL ENSEMBLE

*“Away in A Manger”*

(By William Kirkpatrick, arr. by Anna Laura Page)

(Accompanied by David Lines)

\* GOSPEL READING

**Luke 2:1-20**

Loretta Cudney,

[The Birth of Jesus]

Liturgist

(The **New** Testament, page 54 NRSV)

Leader: This is the Gospel of Christ!

All: **Glory to You, O Christ! Amen!**

TRIO

*“Breath of Heaven”*

Kris Lovekin, Jennifer Mahl, and Val Othon

Composed by Chris Eaton, Lyrics by Amy Grant

CHRISTMAS DEVOTION

Rev. J. T. Kim

**“SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT”**

\* HYMN OF DEDICATION #238 *“Angels we Have Heard on High”* All

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Pastor J. T. Kim

(Pastor) For the gift of God’s own child, may we offer our thanks and praise. For the gift of God’s light and salvation, may we offer our fullest devotion. For the gift of this night, may we offer our offerings. Come! Let us give out of our abundance, as we have received from the abundance of God’s hand.

**(All) Amen!**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*“Carol Preludes”* David Lines, Organist  
by Robert Edwin Smith

\* DOXOLOGY

All

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

All (Led by Pastor Kim)

**O God, you have given us the greatest gift, your Son. We respond to you by giving to you what is precious to us. Grant that we might learn to give even more freely, and teach us how giving changes us. We give thanks for your unceasing love through this tiny child. Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION ON CHRISTMAS EVE

### INVITATION

(Pastor) Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him and seek to grow into his likeness. Let us draw near with faith, make our humble confession, and prepare to receive this Holy Sacrament.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**(All) When we are afraid, comfort us with your presence. When we are weak, support us with your strength. When we are lost and confused, guide us with your wisdom and counsel. When we are alone, draw us closer to you, that we may recognize your presence. Grant us your forgiveness and grace, O Prince of Peace, that in blessed hope, we may know your endless peace. Amen.**

### SILENT PRAYER / All

### PARDON

(Pastor) Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**(Congregation) In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**(All) Glory to God! Amen!**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (CHRISTMAS EVE)

(Pastor) The Lord be with you.

**(Congregation) And also with you.**

(Pastor) Lift up your hearts.

**(Congregation) We lift them up to the Lord.**

(Pastor) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**(Congregation) It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

(Loretta Cudney, Lay Leader) It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

(Pastor) In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**(All Sing)**

Elise Eslinger  
(after NICAEA)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.  
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

(Lay Leader) Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

(Pastor) As your Word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to

you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

(Lay Leader) And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**(All Sing)**

Elise Eslinger

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

The musical notation is a single staff in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, ending with a fermata over the final note. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens under 'ris - en' and 'a - gain!'.

Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

(Pastor) Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

(Lay Leader) By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**(All Sing)**

Elise Eslinger

A - men, a - men a - men.

The musical notation is a single staff in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter notes, with a long horizontal line above the staff indicating a sustained note for the final 'men.' The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens under 'a - men' and 'a - men'.

Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

THE LORD'S PRAYER / All

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**(All) We thank you, gracious God, that in the power of your Holy Spirit you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. We are your children, and yours is the glory, now and for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(Pastor) The light of God is given for you - given to you - and by you it is given to others!

**(All) Jesus is our Light! Amen!**

(Everyone is given a candle at the exit door while heading to the patio and will form a big circle. Pastor lights his candle from the Christ Candle and gives it to the designated light bearers. Then, in the patio, they will give lights to people; then whoever gets the light is to give lights to other people as well. When everyone gets his or her own lighted candle, we will begin singing "Silent Night, Holy Night," verse 1 only, which may be repeated)

\* Hymn #239                      *"Silent Night, Holy Night"* (Verse 1 only)                      All

**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.**

\*RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION (LUKE 2:14, NLT)                      All

(Pastor) Glory to God in highest heaven,

**(All) and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased. Amen!**