

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right...join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the
highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Holy are You...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come
again.**

THE 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. Amen.**

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Taking their light from the Christ candle of the Advent wreath, minister and acolytes will light the candles of the persons seated at the ends of each row. Those persons will then light the candle of the person seated next to them. *Please handle the lighted candles with great care. Hold your burning candle vertically (do not tilt it) while the person seated next to you lights their candle from yours. You may keep your candle or place your extinguished candle in a box at the doors to the sanctuary.*

*HYMN OF REFLECTION "Silent Night"

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.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light.

With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King.

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Consolation on Stille Nacht"

Michael Cox

Elizabeth Wells has given a poinsettia in memory of Jack Wells.

First United Methodist Church

900 Spring Street Johnson City, TN 37604

Worship Guide & Church Life Information Bulletin

Welcome to 1st Church! We are glad you are here!

Please sign the red registration pad at one end of each pew.



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 24, 2016

Christmas Eve

GREETING

PRELUDE

"Partita on in Dulci Jubilo"

James Vivian

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Emmanuel: God, You are with us.

People: We have heard the promise of the prophets.

Leader: We have captured the notes of the angels' song.

**People: We have seen the star in the heavens and we
have believed.**

Leader: Tonight, we come to be with You celebrating that You
have come to be with us.

**People: Tonight, we seek an innocent, helpless baby born
in a manger.**

Leader: We seek a Messiah who will reign with justice.

**People: And You, O Christ— the weakest and the
strongest, the most humble and the most mighty
have found us.**

Leader: May we find ourselves in you.

**People: We come to love each other and to worship You,
as we lift our voices with the heavenly host:
"Glory to God in the highest! Peace on earth and
goodwill to all people." AMEN**

***HYMN**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

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

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 9:6-7

***HYMN OF LONGING**

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
 That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
 O come, Desire of Nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
 Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-2, 6-10

HYMN OF EXPECTATION

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
 Of Jesse's lineage coming as those of old have sung.
 It came a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
 When half-spent was the night.
 Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
 With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
 To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
 When half-spent was the night.

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7

ANTHEM

"Celtic Christmas Lullaby"

*In a lowly stable in Bethlehem, under starlight glowing above,
 A Gift was given, a Child was born, and heaven spilled over with love.
 From a quiet hillside near Bethlehem came shepherds, seeking the Child;
 And they fell to their knees as they worshipped Him, Mary's baby, so tender and mild.
 And the manger cradled a holy sight, and the stars began to sing,
 As the angels danced in the morning light, all the bells of heaven did ring!
 And the rocks and rivers and mountains rejoice; and the whole wide world did sing,
 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel, welcome the newborn King."
 And as Mary whispered a lullaby, heaven's angels sang of His birth,
 Of joy to the world, of love's pure Light, and the promise of peace on earth.*

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-20

HYMNS OF REJOICING

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!
 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.
 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 hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
 Hark, the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
 See Him in the manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;
 Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

OFFERTORY

"Mary, Did You Know?"

Dan Mahoney

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

"A Child is Born!"

Rev. Jane Taylor