

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 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, the 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 straight (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, 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.

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



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.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 24, 2017

Christmas Eve

GREETING

PRELUDE "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" Arr. Anna Laura Page

*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— 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, to worship You, as we praise You 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 9:2-8

***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

MEDITATION IN MUSIC "Mary, Did You Know?" Dan Mahoney

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 host 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 "O Holy Night" Arr. Jan Sanborn

ANTHEM "Manger Carol"

*Gently Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger:
Such a babe in such a place, can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of every race who have found His favor.*

*Gently Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;
He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger:
Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth, hail the King of Glory!*

*Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.*

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION "A Baby Changes Everything" Rev. Jane Taylor

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...and 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.