

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**

GO IN PEACE, GREET ONE ANOTHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST, AND TAKE THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH YOU THIS WEEK TO SHARE WITH ALL YOU MEET.



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, 2018

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, wrapped in swaddling cloth and laying 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 9:2-7

***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, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thy justice here.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 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

Luke 2:1-7

***HYMNS OF WONDER**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
 The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
 The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
 The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

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.

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

"Sweet Little Jesus Boy"

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!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace, hail the Son of Righteousness.
 Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
 Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

OFFERTORY**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 the rivers and mountains rejoiced, 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.*