

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

People: Our Father, . . .

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Candle Lighting Instructions:

An assistant will come to each pew to share the light of Christ. To receive and then pass the light of Christ symbolically through candle lighting please only tilt the unlit candle towards the flame of a lit candle which is held straight up and down. Once your candle is aglow with the flame, then keep it upright at all times. Resist the impulse to tilt your candle to light the next person's candle. The person next to you will then tilt their unlit candle to your candle. Use caution and avoid hair, clothing, and other flammables. Also use caution with the hot melted wax. Parents, or other adults, please assist small children.

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

Carefully extinguish your candle as you depart the sanctuary and place the unlit candle in the baskets provided. Blessings as you carry the light of Christ with you as you leave tonight. Safe travel home and Merry Christmas!



900 Spring Street
Johnson City, TN 37604
423-928-9222

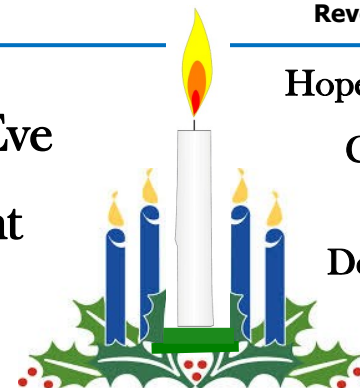
www.1stChurchJC.org

Reverend Jane Taylor, Pastor

Christmas Eve

Candlelight

Service



Hope Peace Joy Love

Christ Has Come

December 24, 2015

6:30 pm

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE and GREETING

PRELUDE and PROCESSIONAL

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The prophets have spoken;

People: Quiet our spirits and open our ears to hear the mysterious message.

Leader: The angels have sung;

People: Fill our hearts with the joy and wonder of God's Holy Gift.

Leader: The star is shining;

People: Help us to focus, to follow, and to believe.

Leader: Unto you is born this day a Savior, Christ the Lord.

All Sing: O come, let us adore Him!

Leader: Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing the Lord has made known to us.

All Sing: O Come, let us adore Him!

Leader: Glory to God in the Highest! He brings peace and goodwill to all people on earth.

All Sing: O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

*HYMN OF ADORATION "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!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
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

HYMN OF EXPECTATION "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art.
Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.
Born Thy people to deliver born a child and yet a King.

Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone.
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:6-7 Waiting Patiently

HYMN OF WONDER "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Lo, how a Rose e're blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old hath 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.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
And share our every load.

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE Matthew 1:18-25 Unsung Hero

MEDITATION IN MUSIC "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" Pat Adams

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1 News Flash

*HYMN OF JOY "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say: News, news! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow and He is in the manger now,
Christ is born today, Christ is born today.

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: News, news!
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door and ye are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: News, news!
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-20 A New Song

HYMN MEDLEY

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plain
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!"

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria In excelsis Deo! Gloria In excelsis Deo!

OFFERTORY "Sing Praise All Creation"

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION Rev. Jane Taylor