

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 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

*HYMN OF JOY

Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love.



First United Methodist Church

900 Spring Street Johnson City, TN 37604

Welcome to First Church. We are glad you are here!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 24, 2019

Christmas Eve

GREETING

PRELUDE

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Arr. David Blackwell

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We have heard the promise proclaimed by the prophets.

People: Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son.

Leader: Unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given.

People: The angels are singing and a star is shining.

Leader: Let us go now to Bethlehem.

All Sing: O come let us adore Him.

Leader: Let us see this thing God has made known to us.

All Sing: O come let us adore Him.

Leader: The promise of God is lying in a manger.

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

Leader: Emmanuel has come. God is with us.

*HYMN OF ADORATION

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

GOSPEL LESSON

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.

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

"Mary, Did You Know?"

Dan Mahoney

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:8-14

SONG OF ASSURANCE

"Peace Has Come"

Drew & Stephen Cradic

*HYMNS OF REJOICING

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!"

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!

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:15-20

HYMN OF REFLECTION

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.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth;
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

OFFERTORY

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Arr. Brad Nix

The Christmas Eve offering will go to the Family Care Fund of First United Methodist Church. Donations to this fund provide a "hand up" for our family and community during times of financial difficulty.

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.*

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"The Reason for the Season"

Rev. Jodie Ihfe

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE SACRAMENT OF 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.