

The Order of Worship

December 24, 2012

Christmas Eve

8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

Prelude	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	Choir
Welcome		Rev. Francis Turner
*Hymn 240	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>	Congregation
*Call to Worship	<i>Psalm 96:1-4a</i>	Rev. Turner/Congregation
O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD all the earth.		
Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.		
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among the peoples. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised.		
Lighting the Christ Candle	<i>Light the Advent Candle (Advent Song)</i>	McVay Family The Whitfield Ringers
Opening Prayer		Rev. Turner/ Congregation
Holy God, heaven and earth are met this night in the newborn Child, Savior of the world. We celebrate his birth; for in him you come close to us, that we might be close to you. We give you thanks for the birth, life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and all he means to us. Especially we give you thanks for:		
<p>the prospects of peace in the world, for confidence in your almighty love, for those who generously give, for those who graciously receive, for the Church that nurtures us in faith.</p>		
God of all mercy, as you have come in Jesus Christ to be our guest, inspire our hearts to a hospitality that welcomes all your children in his name. Especially we pray for:		
<p>those who have not heard your good news, the sick and suffering, those who know no laughter, only tears, those who govern and rule, those enslaved to tyranny, prisoners of addiction or abuse, your Church to be a refuge for the needy.</p>		
All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.		

A Service of Shelter for the Holy Family

Rev. Turner/The Children

Preparation	<i>I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light</i>	Organist
	Mary and Joseph Ask to Enter	
	<i>Revelation 3:20</i>	
Hymn 230	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem (Stanzas 1-2)</i>	Congregation
	Mary and Joseph Seek Shelter	
Hymn 230	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem (Stanzas 3-4)</i>	Congregation
	<i>John 1:10, 12</i>	
Hymn 229	<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i>	Congregation
	Mary and Joseph Find Shelter in a Stable	
	<i>Luke 2:1-7</i>	
Special Music	<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>	LauRuth Turner, Patty Macready
	A Christmas Poem	Reader
Hymn 234	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful (Stanzas 1-3)</i>	Congregation
	A Christmas Prayer	Reader
	<i>Hallelujah!</i>	
* Hymn 246	<i>Joy to the World</i>	Congregation
**Invitation to the Lord's Table		Rev. Turner/Congregation
Confession and Pardon		Hymnal, 12
The Peace		Rev. Turner/Congregation
Offering	<i>O Holy Night</i>	Roseina Bobbitt, Soprano
*Doxology		Hymnal, 94
The Great Thanksgiving		Hymnal, 15
The Lord's Prayer		Hymnal, 895
Breaking the Bread		Rev. Turner
Giving the Bread and Cup		Communion Servers
***Hymn 239 with Candle Lighting	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i>	Congregation
Dismissal with Blessing		Rev. Turner

*Please stand as you are able

**You are invited to Christian discipleship during this hymn. You may come forward to join the church by confession of faith, transfer of membership or restoration of membership. You may make a public recommitment of your life to Christ or spend time in prayer at the rail.

In 1587, Augustinian Father Diego de Soria created the Service of Shelter for the Holy Family (Las Posadas) to introduce Christianity to the New World. It is a preparation for and celebration of the birth of the Savior, emphasizing his coming again and the need of all persons for repentance and God's mercy. The special Christmas Eve portion of this historic, multi-day festival has been adapted from our United Methodist Book of Worship for our children's pageant tonight.

Silent Night, Holy 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
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior is born
Christ, the Savior is born

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

You are invited to attend our Sunday Worship Services each Sunday at 8:15 or 10:30 a.m. as well as our Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!