

Order of Worship

December 24, 2014

Christmas Eve Service

4:00 p.m.

Prelude *Venite Adoremus* **Organist**

Welcome **Rev. Carolyn Nelson**

Christ Is Born **Choir**

***Hymn 240** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* **Congregation**

Call to Worship *Psalms 96:1-4a* **Rev. Nelson/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.

Opening Prayer **Rev. Nelson/ Congregation**

Holy God, heaven and earth are met this day 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:

**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.**

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:

**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.**

All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lighting the Christ Candle **Rev. Nelson**

Special Music *Angel Lullaby* **The GraceNotes**

Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 9:2-7* **Drue Tubbs**

Hymn 218 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* **Congregation**

Epistle Lesson *Titus 2:11-14* **Drue Tubbs**

Special Music *O Holy Night* **Roseina Bobbitt, Soprano**

The Gospel Lessons

The Christmas Stories

Rev. Nelson

The Birth of Jesus

Hymn 234

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Stanzas 1-2)

Luke 2:1-7

Hymn 217

Away in a Manger

The Visit of the Angels and Shepherds

Hymn 238

Angels We Have Heard on High

Luke 2:8-16

The Visit of the Wise Men

Hymn 245

The First Noel

Matthew 2:1-11

The Word Made Flesh

John 1:1-14

***Hymn 246**

Joy to the World

Congregation

****Invitation to the Lord's Table**

Confession

Pardon

The Peace

Offering

Still, Still, Still

Rev. Nelson/Congregation

Congregation

Rev. Nelson/Congregation

Rev. Nelson/Congregation

Choir, The GraceNotes

***Doxology**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Hymnal, 94

Rev. Nelson/Congregation

Rev. Nelson/Congregation

Rev. Nelson

Communion Servers

*****Hymn and Candle Lighting 239**

Silent Night, Holy Night

Congregation

Dismissal with Blessing

Rev. Nelson

Postlude

Organist

*Please stand as you are able

**Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion with us tonight. Please come forward as the ushers direct you and receive the sacrament standing. Place your empty cup on the rail as you move to the outside aisle to return to your seats. You may kneel at the rail for prayer if you like. Offerings left at the rail tonight will be given to the United Methodist Children's Home.

***The ministers and ushers will light candles of those sitting on either side of the middle aisle. Please pass the light to the ends of your pew by lighting the candle of the person sitting next to you.

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 Saviour is born
Christ, the Saviour 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

***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.***

Poinsettias

You are welcome to take your poinsettias with you after the service. Persons delivering poinsettias to home-bound members are asked to pick up your flower(s) tonight as well.