

# **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION**

December 24, 2016, 7:00 PM

**OPENING SONG** ... ... "Christmas Time Is Here" ... ... ...

### WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

# ▲ CONGREGATIONAL SONG <u>Angels We Have Heard on High</u>

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains. **Refrain: Glo---ri-a, in excelsis Deo!** Glo---ri-a, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song? **Refrain.** 

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **Refrain.** 

See him in a manger laid, Whom the choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise. **Refrain.** 

### 

OLD TESTMENT READING	Barbara Friedman
Isaiah 9:2-7	

# **CONGREGATIONAL SONG**

# 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 wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe. **Rejoice!** Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be; before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. GOSPEL READING ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... Phil Rekitzke SPECIAL SONG ... ... "Breath of Heaven" ... ... Haley Nestel This is the Word of our Lord. Thanks be to God! SPECIAL SONG ... ... ... "I Need a Silent Night" ... ... ... **MESSAGE** "A Strange Way to Save the World" Rev. Missy Rekitzke SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION...... page 12

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## **CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

#### **CHRISTMAS OFFERING & PRAYER**

"O Come All Ye Faithful"	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	Wade	
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	--

#### 

"In the Bleak Midwinter" verse 4

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE**

The Lord be with you.

#### And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

#### We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

#### It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### 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.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, And made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. As your Word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, Gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said": "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

### Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us sing:

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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 us our <u>debts</u> as we forgive our <u>debtors</u>. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

# **RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT**

The Lord's table is open to all. Please come by the center aisle under the direction of the ushers and return by the side aisle. The free will offering collected goes to the Needy Fund.

# ▲ PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

# THE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

# PASSING OF THE LIGHT

The light of Christ comes to us. Tip your unlit candle toward the lit candle to receive the light. Please keep your candles upright at all times.

SILENT NIGHT	••••				•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		•••	page 239
--------------	------	--	--	--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--	-----	----------

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.

# ▲ BENEDICTION

Go forth in joy! For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



**Poinsettias and other Gifts to the Glory of God** In memory of Mr. & Mrs. William Q. Allen, Sr., by William Allen & Family.

In memory of our spouses, Shirley & Bill, by Jack & Fran Taylor. In memory of our parents, Raymond McCarty, Rebecca M. Cole,

Wallace Cole, Glenn Dudrow & Catherine Dudrow, by Wade & Janice Dudrow.

- In memory of our mothers, Elizabeth Porter & Marie Jackson, by Cal & Marion Jackson.
- In memory of Thomas & Jeanette Davis, Carroll & Myrtle Newcomb, by Mary Granger.
- In memory of The Hansen & Burnes Families, by Barbara & Linwood Hansen.

In memory of loved ones, by Donna & Dick Anderson.

- In memory of our parents, Éthel & Ed Warner, by Pat Covey & Lee Royer.
- In honor of Brad & Polly Watts, by Tom, Paula, Samantha, Austin & Carolyn Turner.
- In memory of Frank Stoner, Sarah & Bill Sutherland & Wayne Bildahl, by Sarah Stoner.
- In honor of my daughters, grandchildren & great grandchildren, by Pat Visgaitis.

In memory of loved ones, by Nancy & Haines Holt.

- In memory of our grandson Derek Covey, by Jim & Pat Covey.
- In memory of Billy Comegys, Robert & Lois Horney, by Chris & Kristin Schindler.
- In honor of children, grandchildren & great- grandsons, & in memory of loved ones, by Bob & Eenie Burris.

In memory of Polly Yowell, by Calvin Yowell.

In memory of my son, Chesley Lee "Chet" Hargraves, IV, by Phyllis Matthai.

In memory of Dianne's Parents, Nathan & Eva Hubbard, by Richard & Dianne VanSlambrook.

In memory of our parents, by Art & Louise Shelby.

In memory of Doris Lee, by Brenda Crabbs.

In memory of Terrence M. O'Donnell, by Edith R. O'Donnell.

- In memory of my parents, Bill & Dot Lyons, my brother Jeffery & my husband Alan, by Kaye L. Ramsey.
- In honor of Kathy Anne Swann & in memory of Daniel Wayne Swann, by Dan & Pearl Swann.

In honor of Mr. & Mrs. John Wimbrow & in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Morgan & Mr. Miguel Morales, by The Wimbrow Family.

In honor of our children & grandchildren, by Don & Ann Yingling. In honor of Jane Barton, by the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

In memory of our parents, by Carolyn & Claude Edwards.

- In honor of Dr. Bill Wharton's 50 years as St. Mark's organist, & in memory of Mike & my parents, by Marcia Kirby.
- In memory of Philip White, by Kim, Tyler, Nick & Alex White.
- In memory of Carl & Betsy Pusey, by Susan Divilio & family.

In memory of all of our family that have gone before us, by Claude & Mary Ann Hicks.

In honor of Pat & Pat Higgins, by George, Ruth, Tim, Jennifer, Garrit, Madison, Rylie.

In memory of Hope Marie Jackson, by Tim & Ruth.

In memory of Sallie Yater, by The Higgins Family.

In memory of my parents, Stewart L. Hoxter & Elizabeth "Bette" Adams, by Karen Reed.

In memory of Eugene Carroll, by Michaele Ann Graves.

In memory of loved ones, by Ron & Mary McCarty.

- In memory of Bruce Vogel, by Ally Vogel.
- In memory of our precious daughter, Donna Fleming Borges, by Bill & Elizabeth Fleming.
- In memory of my parents, Howard & Elizabeth Eley, by Elizabeth Fleming.
- In memory of Jack, Mae, Johnny & Wayne Claytor, by Ray & Mary Claytor.
- In memory of Ebe H. Pope & Margaret Pope, by Sharon Schutz & family.
- In memory of Mac Brittingham, my husband & Herbie Andrew, my brother, by Dottie Brittingham.
- In honor of Brad & Shari Powers, by Barbara Friedman.

In memory of our parents, by Bob & Judy Lawrence.

In honor of our grandchildren, by Bob & Fran Gosser.

- In memory of my mother, Marian Miller; my father, Herbert Bradley; my stepfather, Raymond Miller, by Cindy Doupnik.
- In honor of Marion & Cal Jackson; in memory of Nickolas J. Maisano, by Sharon Maisano.
- In memory of Jean & Chester Barto, by Mary Belle Barto.

In memory of my parents, by Gigi Hershey.

Join us New Years Eve for ONE Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary! NO SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Wishing you the blessings of HIS peace this Christmas.



<u>After</u> the 10:00 pm Christmas Eve service, please take your poinsettia if you purchased one.

**Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>** – Merry Christmas! Church Office Closed!

Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> – Dec 29<sup>th</sup> Church office open 8:30am - 12:00pm

Dec. 31st – 1 service at 10:30 am NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jan. 1, 2018 – Jan. 2, 2018 Happy New Year! Church Office Closed