

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2016

PRELUDE (A time to prepare your heart for worship of God)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Ken Timmerman

***THE HYMN NO. 234** "O Come, All ye Faithful" Advent Wreath Lighting

A PRAYER OF ADVENT (In Unison)

Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2: 9-20

Rev. Timmerman

SERMON

"For the Love of a Baby!"

Rev. Timmerman

MUSICAL REFLECTION: Take a moment and in silence lift up to God those matters upon your heart. Pray for your neighbor, friends, and family. Pray for those that joy is difficult to find at Christmas because of loss of loved ones and others who struggle with life itself. Pray for the unity of your family and for God to set our hearts right as we receive the gift of Christ.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION, PAGE NO. 12

Invitation

Institution

Consecration of Elements

Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

The Communion of the People

The Prayer following Communion

SHARING THE LIGHT (Hold lit candle vertical, tip unlit candle)

The simple act of lighting a candle means so much more tonight. We are sharing the light that comes into the world to reveal God's love and truth to all. As we share this light with our neighbors, know that we are sharing the love and mercy of God. When each candle has received its light, we will stand to sing our closing hymn. On the fourth Stanza of the hymn, please raise your light toward heaven and hold it there as we sing. At the conclusion of our hymn, please extinguish the light upon the candle carefully, but never extinguish the light in your heart.

***THE HYMN NO. 239 "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!

***THE BENEDICTION**

***Indicates where you should stand if you are able.**

*If you would like to give an offering, you may do so on your way out.
Offering plates will be available at the front door.*

First United Methodist Church

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