



December 24, 2022 | Christmas Eve | 7:30 PM
Holy Communion

Jennifer Lovallo, Pastor
Jeffrey Fornoff, Music Director

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The angels are singing a new song!

Glory to the newborn King!

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice, for our hopes are fulfilled in the Child of the Manger.

God has given us a new song to sing. Let our voices soar with good tidings.

***CENTERING PRAYER**

God of Eternity, whose rule extends to the farthest stars, come to rule within us on this wondrous night, when the Word becomes flesh once more to dwell among us. We open ourselves to the light and long to offer our lives as a dwelling place for your truth. Speak to us again through the Child of Bethlehem. Reach out to the child in all of us, and hold us in the warmth of love's embrace. We gather as your children to say thank you for loving us so much that you gave us the greatest gift of all, the babe in the manger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" UMH 240++
 Nick Moglia, *Trumpet*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Agnes Halsey & Frederick Myers

***CAROL** "Joy to the World" UMH 246++
 Bell Choir, Nick Moglia, *Trumpet*

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM "The First Noel" arr. S. Berry & J. Van Valey

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:1-7

CAROL "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verses 1 & 2) UMH 230

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:8-16

CAROL "Angels We Have Heard on High" (verses 1 & 2) UMH 238

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:17-20

CHOIR ANTHEM "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella" Arr. S. W. McRae

SERMON "O Holy Night"

MUSICAL SHARING "O Holy Night" Steven Bloomer-Teague

OFFERING & *DOXOLOGY "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verses 1-3) UMH 234++
 Nick Moglia, *Trumpet*

CHRISTMAS PRAYER
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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.

PARDON

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.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

UMH 15-16

LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT

***CLOSING HYMN**

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

UMH 239++

***CHRISTMAS BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

++ *Indicates someone's favorite hymn*

Merry Christmas



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