

# December 24, 2019

## Christmas Eve ~ Candlelight Service

In this Reconciling Congregation, all people are welcome, safe and cherished.

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray, Senior Pastor  
 Mark Shaull, Director of Music  
 Diane Keller, Organist

Organ Prelude ~ Meditation

Diane Pratt Keller, Organist

*Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol*  
*Christmas in Sicily*  
*In dulci jubilo*  
*Il Est Né, le Divin Enfant.*

Gerald Near  
 Pietro Yon  
 J.S. Bach  
 Dale Wood

Introit

*Christmas Alleluia!*

John Weaver

*Alleluia! Unto Us A Child Is Born! Let us come, and worship him. Alleluia!*

Welcome

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Processional Carol\*

*Joy to the World*

UMH 246

Lighting the Advent Candles

Blair Crangle-Hall and Simin Rousteau

Sung to the tune of *Away In a Manger*  
 A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright;  
 A candle of *Hope* in December's dark night.  
 While angels sing blessings from heav'n's starry sky  
 Our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh.  
 A candle is burning, a candle of *Peace*;  
 A candle to signal that conflict must cease.  
 For Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
 A message of Peace humbly laid in the hay.  
 A candle is burning, a candle of *Joy*;  
 A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
 Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow  
 As Joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.  
 A candle is burning, a candle of *Love*;  
 A candle to point us to heaven above.  
 A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth;  
 For Jesus is bringing God's Love to our earth.

We honor Messiah with the *Christ-Candle's* flame;  
 Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.  
 O come, all ye faithful, rejoice on this night  
 As God comes among us, the Christian's true Light.

Scripture

*Isaiah 9:2-7*

Pamela Cutkosky

Reading

"On the Morning of Christ's Nativity" by John Milton

Blair Crangle-Hall

Anthem

From the Messiah: *And the Glory of the Lord*  
*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together*  
*For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. (Isaiah 40:5)*

G.F. Handel

Scripture

*Psalms 96:1-4, 11-13*

Pamela Cutkosky

Reading

"Christmas Bells" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Jeraldine Johnson

Carol\*

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

UMH 220

Chancel Choir Anthem

*Beside Thy Cradle, Here I Stand*

J.S. Bach

*Beside the cradle here I stand, O Thou that ever livest*  
*And bring Thee with a willing hand, the very gifts Thou givest*  
*Accept me, 'tis my mind and heart, my soul, my strength,*  
*My ev'ry part that thou from me requirest.*

Pastoral Prayer

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Passing of the Peace\*

Carol

*In The Bleak Midwinter*

UMH 221

Scripture

*Luke 2:1-20*

Pamela Cutkosky

Reading

"Shepherd's Song at Christmas" by Langston Hughes

Rev. Dr. Debra Murray

Christmas Homily

Making Room for Christ

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

Solo

*What Songs Were These*  
*Mark Shaull, Baritone*

John Jacob Niles

Carol\*

*Good Christian Friends Rejoice*

UMH 224

Invitation to the Offering

Pamela Cutkosky

Offertory

*O Come, Little Children*

Dale Wood

Response to Offertory

Chancel Choir Anthem

*Before the Marvel of this Night*

Carl Schalk

*Before the marvel of his night, adoring, fold your wings and bow,  
Then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow.  
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease:  
Sing peace, sing gift of peace!*

*Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.  
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.  
Give earth a glimpse of heav'nly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss:  
Sing bliss, sing endless bliss!*

*The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,  
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.  
Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above:  
Sing love, sing God is love!*

COMMUNION

*The Great Thanksgiving for Christmas Eve*

UMH p24-See Insert

Carol

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

UMH 240

Receive the Light of Christ

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

*Receive the Light of Christ from the attendants in the center aisle, pass it on to your neighbors.  
Stay in place until all candles lit. Then follow the Chancel Choir to the patio as we sing "Silent Night".*

Carol

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

UMH 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 host 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.**

\*Benediction

Reverend Dr. Debra Murray

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