

# St. John's UCC, Fullerton



575 Grape Street † Whitehall PA 18052  
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We Worship, We Love, We Serve –  
No Matter What!

**December 24, 2022**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**6 p.m. Service**

# The Order of Worship

## ~ We Worship ~

\* Those who are comfortably able, please stand

### Music to Prepare Our Hearts for Worship

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* M. Eichurn

Bells of St. John's

*Silent Night* Austin Venanzi, Trumpet

*Of the Father's Love Begotten* Arr. by Larry Sue

Bells of St. John's

*Child of Joy and Peace* C. Browning

Aubrey and Alyssa Beckwith

*The Ukrainian Bell Carol* Arr. by Larry Sue

Bells of St. John's

**Welcome and Announcements** Rev. Steven Davis

~ Holy Communion is available after the service, open to all

~ Sunday Worship, Dec. 25 & Jan. 1, 10:45 a.m. only

### \*Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

### \*Call to Worship

One: Sing a new song to the Holy One! Emmanuel reigns!

**All: Mighty God, we gather to consider your marvelous works.**

One: Sing a new song to the Holy One! Emmanuel reigns!

**All: Wonderful Counselor, we gather to delight in your revelation.**

One: Sing a new song to the Holy One! Emmanuel reigns!

**All: Prince of Peace, we gather to become messengers of your good news.**

# \*Opening Hymn

# *O Come All Ye Faithful* Verses 1 and 2

CHRISTMAS

## O Come, All Ye Faithful 182

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
3 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove;  
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry given;

come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Refrain*  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

WORDS: Attr. John F. Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)  
MUSIC: John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

ADESTE FIDELES  
Irregular

Lighting the candles on the Advent wreath is an ancient tradition used to help worshippers prepare for the coming Child. The center Christ Candle symbolizes the gift of the Child, born for us. Hear the call of the angels, “Fear not! Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be for all people!”

### The Christ Candle

One: Tonight we conclude our Advent journey as we light the Christ Candle and welcome the one promised in scripture.

**All: He is called Emmanuel; God with us!**

One: We celebrate the hope brought to earth by our Wonderful Counselor.

**All: He is called Emmanuel, God with us!**

One: We rejoice in the strength and power of a Mighty God.

**All: He is called Emmanuel; God with us!**

One: We sing of peace on earth and good will to all people.

**All: He is called Emmanuel; God with us!**

One: And we lift our hearts to praise our everlasting Father.

**All: He is called Emmanuel; God with us! Joy to the World! The Lord has come!**

One: We light all the candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. As the light from these candles fills the room, we light the Christ Candle, welcoming the newborn King. The one who is Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, God with us.

**Sung Response**

*A Candle is Burning*

(Sung to the tune of *Away in A Manger*)

**We honor Messiah with Christ's candle flame  
Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim  
O Come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night  
As God comes among us, the Christian's true light.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Rev. Davis

God of many names, in faith we name these persons and needs before you, trusting you to bring your peace, healing and hope to people and circumstances. Hear our prayers for...

We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus, the Christ, whose hope, peace and joy draw us together to pray, saying...

**The Lord's Prayer**

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

**Prayer Response**

*"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

**O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

## Children's Message

Children and youth are welcome to come up to the chancel steps. "Busy bags" are at the kids table in the parlor and Rm 201 is open for those whose children want additional activities and space during worship. The livestream of worship is shown there. Please have an adult join them!

## Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings to God



*Thank you for your  
generosity and faithfulness in  
supporting the ministry of  
St. John's UCC!*

\*Doxology

Based on *The First Noel*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye Heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel Born is the King of Israel. Amen.*

\*Scripture Reading

Isaiah 62: 6-12

Luke 2: 1-20

Tyler Shankweiler

\*Please stand in body or in spirit for the reading of God's Word.

One: The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*  
Verses 1 and 2

Hymn found on page 6

Sermon

Rev. Steven Davis

**God's Gifts in the Christ Child**

Film: The Muppet Christmas Carol

# Special Music *Were You There on that Christmas Night*

N. Sleeth

Soloists: Ms. Julie McKeon and Mr. Patrick Sandt

## HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

MENDELSSOHN

Verses



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry to the
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er -
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of



1. new - born King; Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild,
2. last - ing Lord; Late in time, be - hold him come,
3. Righ - teous - ness! Light and life to all he brings,



1. God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all ye
2. Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the
3. Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his



1. na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies; With an -
2. God - head see! Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty! Pleased as
3. glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die, Born to



1. gel - ic hosts pro - claim: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
2. man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
3. raise us from the earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

Text: 77 77 D with refrain; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. by William H. Cummings, 1831–1915.

# ~ We Serve ~

## Christmas Eve Candle Lighting

*The Pastor will begin the lighting of candles from the light of the Christ Candle, to the ushers, and then the congregation. Please light your candle from your neighbor's to receive the Light, holding your candle upright and remaining in your place as we sing. You may place your used candle in the boxes as we leave the sanctuary. Please do not place them on the pew cushions or floor. We will raise our candles with care on the final verse.*

**\*Hymn**

*Silent Night! Holy Night!*  
Verses 1, 2 and 3

CHRISTMAS

## Silent Night! Holy Night! 186

1 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
2 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight,  
3 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light,

'round you vir - gin moth-er and child; ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and  
glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heav-en-ly hosts sing al - le - lu -  
ra - dant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing

mild, sleep in heav-en-ly peace, sleep in heav-en-ly peace.  
ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.



**\*The Benediction**

Rev. Davis

**\*Hymn**

*Joy to the World*  
Verses 1, 2 and 4

CHRISTMAS

179

**Joy to the World!**

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all their songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 (1) and heaven and na - ture sing,

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)  
MUSIC: George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

ANTI-OCH  
C.M.Repeats

## **Postlude**

*Hymn Concerto on Joy to the World*  
G.F. Handel/arr. Douglas J. Benton

***Holy Communion is open to all following the Postlude.  
Please come to the front rows and be seated, and then served.  
Join us for worship Christmas morning at 10:45am!  
May God bless you with a joyful and love-filled Christmas!***

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### **Serving in Worship Leadership**

**December 24 - 6 p.m.**

Acolyte - Kayleigh Fisher

Ushers - Brian Fisher, Tracy Fisher, Kayleigh Fisher & Carson Strauss

Communion Servers - Janet Ebert, Tyler Shankweiler, Brian Strauss & Brian Fisher

Worship Tech - Michelle Gutekunst

**December 25 - 10:45 a.m.**

Ushers - Colleen Kulhamer, Wayne Lichtenwalner & Dewey Yeatts

Worship Tech - Bill Castello

### **In Our Prayers:**

Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill or are in our area hospitals: Richard Baatz, Jim Carr, Carl Case, Sandra Diefenderfer, Robert and Nancy Dougherty, Shirley Downing, Milton Focht, Sally Gibson, Tracey Glass, Ron Glass, Ginny Hess, Ted Hess, Travis Kaintz, Geraldine Keim, Jean Litzenberger, Karen Moyer, Eleanor O'Donnell, Jack Ohl, Brenda Pascoe, Joey Raszler, Donna Rice, Marietta Seyfried, Madeline Slivka, Eleanor Smith, and Nancy Weaver.

We continue to pray for all those serving in our nation's military and for their families for their sacrifices on behalf of our freedom.

If you or a family member is admitted to the hospital, tell them you are a member of St. John's or use the church code, 473.

If you have someone for us to remember in prayer, please contact the church office.

## **Church Calendar for the Week of Dec 25 – Jan 1**

Sun., 12/25 10:45 am Worship Service  
Mon., 12/26 Office Closed  
Tues., 12/27 Office Closed  
Sun., 1/1 10:45 am Worship Service

### **Financial Year End Donations Reminder**

If you will be making a year-end contribution to St. John's UCC, Fullerton before the close of the calendar year, please be sure it is at the Church Office by December 30 to be counted for 2022 tax and giving statements.

The Church Office will be open until 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 30 to receive your contributions.

### **OUR STAFF**

Rev. Steve Davis	Senior Pastor
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