

# St. John's UCC, Fullerton



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We Worship, We Love, We Serve –  
No Matter What!

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

# The Order of Worship

## ~ We Worship ~

\* Those who are comfortably able, please stand

### Music to Prepare Our Hearts for Worship

*The Combined Choirs of St. John's*

*Make My Life A Bethlehem*

C. Courtney

Soloist: Colleen Kulhamer

*Night Song*

J. Ailor

*Still, Still, Still*

Arr. by Joey Holscher

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

Arr. by C. Courtney

### Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Davis

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

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

#### \*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*

We will sing Verses 1 and 2  
with an interlude between the refrain and Verse 3.

## 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 of Advent Wreath

Jackie Maxon,  
 Sean Hartman

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.**

**~ We Love ~**

**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

Sharon Czekner

\*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.**

**Song of Reflection**

*The Shepherd's Lamb*

Combined Choirs

Dan Forrest

Violinist: Regina Mohr

**Sermon**

Rev. Steven Davis

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

Film: The Muppet Christmas Carol

**Special Music**

*Come Dearest Child*

Combined Choirs

Ralph Manuel

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

*Written by Cheryl Lawrie, Port Phillip Prison, Christmas 2007 (Used with permission.)*

One: The bread and wine we're about to share joins us to the people throughout history and across the world who have come to this meal in search of life.

**All: Just as Jesus' birth was for the whole world, this bread and wine is for everyone. For the hungry, for the lost, for those who search and those who are found, for those who question, and those who know peace. This is bread and wine for everyone.**

## Words of Institution and Consecration

**Sharing the Meal**      Combined Choirs      *O Holy Night*  
Adolphe C. Adam, Arr. by Jay Rouse

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Let the love that shaped earth and heaven

**All: dwell within us this Christmas.**

One: Let the love that created humanity

**All: dwell within us this Christmas.**

One: Let the love that overcomes suffering and hatred

**All: dwell within us this Christmas.**

One: Let the love that causes us to rejoice with loved ones

**All: dwell within us this Christmas.**

One: Let the love that forgives and renews

**All: dwell within us this Christmas.**

One: Let the love that brings reconciliation after separation

**All: dwell within us this Christmas.**

One: Let the love that gathers us at the Christ Child's manger and the gracious Lord's table bring the blessing of peace

**All: dwell within us this Christmas. May we share that peace with all people near and far. Amen.**

~ 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

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 yon 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-diant 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 musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It features a treble and bass clef staff. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. Chord symbols (Bb, F7, Eb, Bb/F, F) are placed above the treble staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

\*A Prayer at Christmas

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)

ANTIOCH  
C.M.Repeats

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Davis

**\*Sung Response**

*Threefold Amen*

**Postlude**

*Masters in the Hall*

Gordon Young

***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 - 9 p.m.**

Ushers - Linda Apple, Charlie Apple, Sharon Czekner,  
Bob Czekner, DonnaLee Yeatts, Dewey Yeatts,  
Wayne Lichtenwalner  
Worship Tech - Bill Castello

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

Ushers - Ushers - Colleen Kulhamer,  
Wayne Lichtenwalner & Dewey Yeatts  
Worship Tech - Bill Castello

### **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.

### **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

### **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.

### **OUR STAFF**

Rev. Steve Davis	Senior Pastor
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