We Worship Together

**Majestic Candlelight Service**

 **A Service of Lessons and Carols** December 24, 2022

PRELUDE

“*Christmas Selections*” Charlotte Rathke, Organist

INTROIT *“All is Well”* (Raney) Chancel Choir

Alex Rome, director Sharon Graham, pianist

CHRISTMAS GREETING

\*CAROL *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”* (Vs. 1-3) UMH#234

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tonight we conclude our Advent journey as we light the Christ candle, welcoming the one promised in the scripture.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

And we lift our hearts in praise to our Everlasting Father.

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

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

*Tonight, we light all the candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ, the Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. As the light from these candles fill this room, we light the Christ candle, welcoming the newborn King. The one who is Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, God with us.*

Unison Prayer

**Gracious Lord, throughout this Advent season we have come to know you by many names. Tonight, we celebrate your birth and thank you for being our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Remind us that no matter where we are, or where we’ve been, you are with us. We gather in the glory of this night to welcome you as Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. We pray this in the wonderful name of Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen**

CAROL (7:00) *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* (Vs. 1 & 2)UMH#211

SPECIAL (10:45) *“Mary Did You Know?”* Johanna Jones

CHILDREN’S TIME (7:00) Pastor Craig Hauschild

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

ANTHEM *“Fum, Fum, Fum”* (Herrington/Glick)

Alexandra Rome, director Sharon Graham, accompanist

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

THE FIRST LESSON Luke 2:1-4

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

CAROL *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* (Vs. 1 & 4) UMH#230

THE SECOND LESSON Luke 2:5-7

He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and

who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her first- born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL (7:00) *“Away in a Manger”* (Vs. 1 & 3) UMH#217

SPECIAL (10:45) *“Away in a Manger”* Isabelle Jones

THE THIRD LESSON Luke 2:8-9

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch

over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

CAROL *“The First Noel”* (Vs. 1 & 2) UMH#245 THE FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:10-14

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing

you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and

lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a

multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

CAROL *“Angels We Have Heard on High”* (Vs. 1, 3 & 4) UMH#238

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:15

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the

shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

CAROL *“Sing We Now of Christmas”* (Vs. 1-3) UMH#237

THE SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:16-19

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child

lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

CAROL (7:00) *“What Child Is This”* (Vs. 1-2) UMH#219

SPECIAL (10:45) *“Greensleeves”*  Noah Schumacher

THE SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:20

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had

heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CAROL *“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”* (Vs. 1-2) UMH#251

CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY Charlotte Rathke, organist

\*DOXOLOGY

 **Praise God for gifts of hope and peace,**

 **Praise God for gifts of joy and love,**

 **Praise God for sending Christ to dwell,**

 **On earth for us—Emmanuel. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE Rev. Craig Hauschild

REFLECTION (7:00) *“One Small Child”* Sharon Graham, pianist

 REFLECTION (10:45) *“Little Drummer Boy, Peace on Earth”*

 Krista Ivey, flutist

\*LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF CHRISTMAS

The light from the Christ Candle will be brought to each pew. Please carefully pass the light down the pews as we sing *“Silent Night, Holy Night”.* Keep lit candle upright.

\*BENEDICTION

\*CAROL OF BENEDICTION UMH#246

 *“Joy to the World”* (Vs. 1-2, 4)

\*POSTLUDE *“Joy to the World”* Charlotte Rathke, organist

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

For your safety, please keep all lit candles upright.

This Sunday, December 25, one service at 10 am. Sunday, January 1, one service at 10 am.

Year-End giving has to be post-marked by December 31 or in the office by Friday, December 30 at noon to be included in 2022 giving.

 Senior WOW will meet Wednesday, January 11 at 4 pm. Senior WOW

 welcomes Dr. Carl Miller, chair of FHSU Philosophy Department at 4

 pm, Wednesday, January 11. Please note the date change.

 WOW, Worship on Wednesday, resumes Wednesday, January 11.

 Meal at 5 pm, Worship at 6:00 pm, classes for all ages begin at

 6:15 pm.

Book Club will meet Wednesday, January 11 at 7:15 pm., “My Sister’s Keeper by Jodi Picoult.

Pick up a scripture reading schedule for January at either of the sanctuary entrances. Let’s join together in reading and studying the entire Bible in the year 2023!