

# Rockton/Durand UMC Christmas Evg, 2020

## Order of Worship



### Opening Song

*Do You Hear What I Hear? Verses 1-4*

### Christmas Wreath Candle Reading

The Dietmeier Family

Our Christmas Affirmation Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us; Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus. It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ Candle.

**We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ our hope is fulfilled; our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed.**

Rejoice, a Savior is born.

**A savior is born, indeed. Joy to the world!**

### Call to Worship

- \* This night is the long night  
when those who listen await his cry. Lisa Schultz
- \* This night is the eve of the great nativity  
when those who are longing await His appearing. Christy Byl
- \* Wait, with watchful heart. Greta Wulf
- \* Listen carefully, through the stillness;  
listen, hear the telling of the waves upon the shore. Carol Roskos
- \* Listen, hear the song of the angels glorious –  
e're long it will be heard  
that His foot has reached the earth:  
news – that the glory is come! John Carleton
- \* Truly His salvation is near  
for those who fear Him,  
and His glory shall dell in our land. Beth Spielman
- \* Watch and pray, the Lord shall come. Laura Noel
- \* Those who are longing await His appearing. William Ping
- \* Those who listen await His cry. Lori Oostendorp
- \* Watch .... Gavin Byl
- \* Wait .... Kathryn Markley
- \* Listen .... Celia & Kathy Rothermel

**This night is the long night.**

### Song of Reflection

*Away In a Manger*

Rockford District Clergy

### Scripture

*Luke 2:15-20*

Melody Huber

### Song

*What Child is This? Verses 1 & 3*

(UMH #219)

### Scripture

*Matthew 2:1-6*

Judy Davis

## Prayer

*"I open the stable door; I kneel before the infant; I worship with the shepherds; I adore the Christ child. I give my love with Mary and Joseph; I wonder at the 'Word made flesh'. I am aware of the love of God: I sing glory with the angels; I offer my gifts with the wise men. I receive the living Lord; I hold Him in my hands; I go on my way rejoicing, glorifying and praising God."*

—David Adam, *Celtic Daily Prayer*.

## The Lord's Prayer

The Snyder Family

### Scripture

*Matthew 2:7-12*

Lori Oostendorp

### Sermon

*Smelling Love*

Pastors Nicole & Howie Snyder

**Offering Song** *O Little Town of Bethlehem (v1) & We Three Kings (v1 & 3)* (UMH #230/254)

## Offering Prayer

## Benediction

*A Prayer for the Shortest Day*

From the rising of the midwinter sun to its setting,  
scatter the darkness with the light of Your love, O Shining One.  
Make me short on mean thoughts, long on offering words of comfort.  
Make me short on being driven, long on paying attention.  
Make me short on focusing only on my own, long on looking beyond.  
Make me short on obsessive lists, long on spontaneous acts of kindness.  
Make me short on mindless activity, long on time to reflect.  
Make me short on traction as habit, long on re-discovery and re-owning.  
Make me short on rushing and tiring, long on walking and wondering.  
Make me short on false festive jollity, long on stilling and rooted joy.  
Make me short on guilt, long on being merciful to myself.  
Make me short on being overwhelmed, long on peaceableness  
as I set forth this day.

(Tess Ward)

Grab your coat and candle—meet us outside to sing *Silent Night*. Don't forget to listen for the church bells ringing at 6PM, and then sing, sing out long, sing out strong! (*weather permitting*)

And, if you are able, please join us LIVE by clicking  
via Facebook livestream: <https://www.facebook.com/DurandUMCommunity/live>

or via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8205565380?pwd=c2NEbFFBeGJPOTZsem5ibFByRi9UQT09>

Or by phone at **1-312-626-6799**  
Meeting ID: **820 556 5380**  
Passcode: **13712**

## Closing Songs

*Silent Night (v1 & 3) & Joy to the World (v1 & 4)*

(UMH #239/246)