

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. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SERMON *Silent Night* Rev. Thomason

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

SHARING THE LIGHT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rynn Naylor

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *O Holy Night* Adolf Adams
Anna Bower Richardson

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT John 8:12; Matthew 5:14-16

CAROL *Silent Night, Holy Night*

THE TRIUMPH OF THE LIGHT John 1:4-5

A CHRISTMAS BENEDICTION

Worshippers are invited to gather in the enclosed courtyard on the Main Street side of the sanctuary to sing "Silent Night" socially distanced.

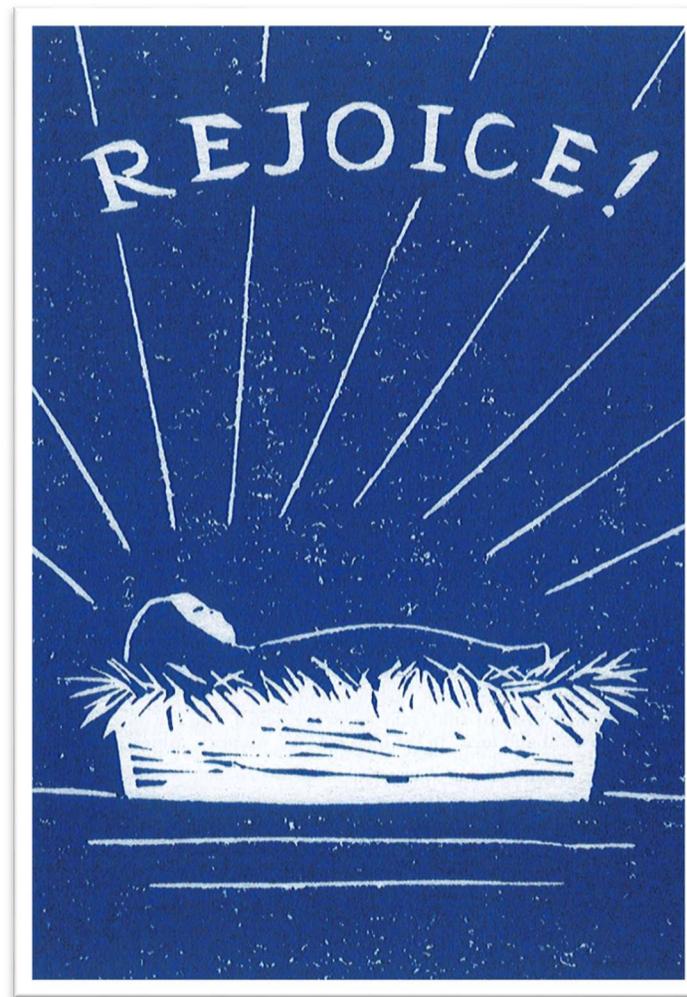
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

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Woodbury United Methodist Church



Thursday, December 24, 2020

Woodbury United Methodist Church

December 24, 2020
Christmas Eve

*Please stand as you are able.

LIGHT COMING INTO DARKNESS

PRELUDE A Christmas Medley

Matt Bodwell, Rod Carnes, Kate Keeler

THE PROMISE OF LIGHT from a poem by Huub Oosterhuis

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6

GRATITUDE FOR THE LIGHT

*CAROL Choral Collage
O Come, All Ye Faithful

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Rynn Naylor, Liturgist
from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020*

Light of the world, shine upon us this night. Shine in our lives, that we may shine with your love. Shine in our world, that your light may overcome all darkness and fear. Shine through our worship, that our souls may be strengthened with the power of your light and love. In the name of love, we pray. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF GREETING Rev. Thomason

PROCLAIMING THE LIGHT

CHILDREN'S TIME *Christmas Eve: Wonder of Advent*
by SkitGuys Recorded by Anna and Matthew Shupenis

SPECIAL MUSIC *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*
Jeff and Barb Hunt, Hand Bells

GOSPEL LESSON FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Luke 2:1-20

read by Rynn Naylor

The congregation remains seated.

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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

CAROL Choral Collage
What Child Is This

While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn 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 Anna Bower Richardson
Away in a Manger

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

The congregation stands.

CAROL Choral Collage
Joy to the World

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they