

Woodbury United Methodist Church

December 27, 2020
1st Sunday after Christmas

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *O Magnum Mysterium* Vittoria
Christopher Shay, organist

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

*CALL TO WORSHIP Traditional Byzantine Christmas Prayer
from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

Christ is born, give him glory!

Christ has come down from heaven, receive him!

Christ is now on earth, exalt him!

O you earth, sing to the Lord!

O you nations, praise him with joy, for he has been glorified!

*OPENING HYMN *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*
Hymns sung by Carolyn Shay

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Bud Behlman, Liturgist
based on Luke 2, Galatians 4
from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020*

Light of the world, shine in our lives today. As we gather to worship you, give us the eyes of Simeon and the faith of Anna, that we may see the promise of our salvation. As we come before you with hope and expectation, give us the spirit of your Son, that we too may grow in strength and increase in wisdom. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME led by Bud Behlman

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Bud Behlman

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS read by Bud Behlman
Lessons for the First Sunday after Christmas, Year B
from *The Revised Common Lectionary*

Epistle Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7 (NRSV)

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:22-40 (NRSV)
Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them