

Silent Night, Holy Night

1. *Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,
Round yond virgin, mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.*
2. *Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!*
3. *Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*
4. *Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!*

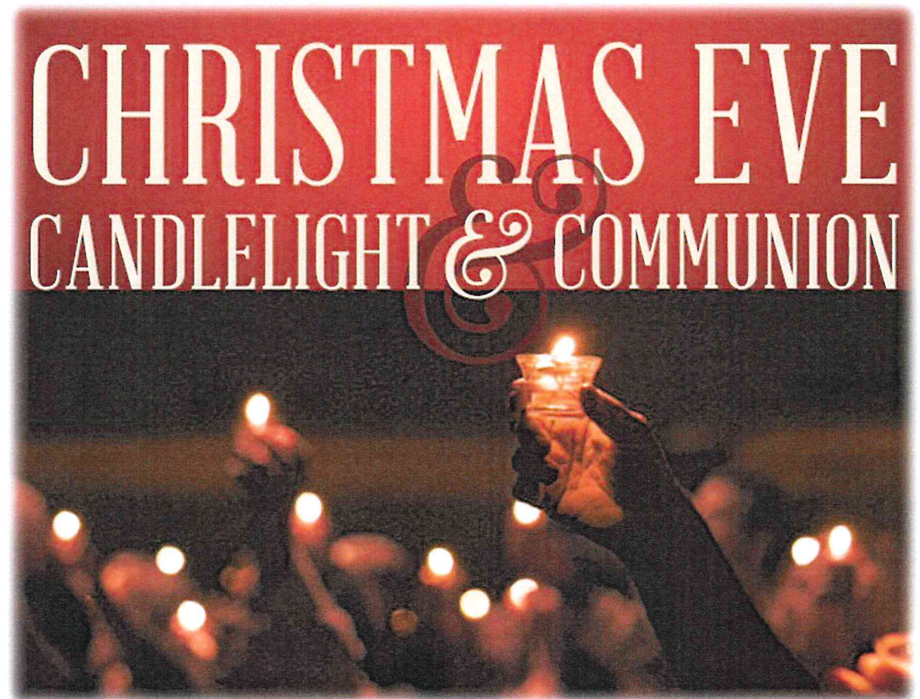
Joy to the World

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart, prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

Merry Christmas!



BETHLEHEM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CLIMAX, NORTH CAROLINA



6PM
December 24, 2021

Gathering Music & Lighting of the Altar Candles

*Greeting		
Leader:	On this holiest of nights,	
People:	we come, joining the shepherds who are stunned by wonder.	
Leader:	On this night of carols and candlelight,	
People:	we come, our glad songs joining with the choirs of angels over us.	
*Invitation Song	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	No. 234
*Old Testament	Isaiah 9:1-7	
*Hymn	<i>Hark, the Herald Angels Sing</i>	No. 240
*Lighting of the Christ Candle		
Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer		
Special Music	<i>Silent Night</i>	BUMC Bell Choir
New Testament	Luke, Chapter 2	
Message		Rev. Joseph Fulk, III
*Hymn	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	No. 238

Holy Communion

(Offering left on the altar rail will go to next Sunday’s offering.)

INVITATION: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON: **Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence this evening filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though there is greatness in us, and a deep longing for goodness, we have often denied our better selves and refused to hear your voice. At times we choose to walk in darkness even though we know that in you, there is no darkness at all. Forgive us, we pray, and shine the light of your Son Jesus into our hearts and cleanse us from all our sin. We ask this in Christ’s name. Amen.**

Hear the good news: Through God’s grace, the love of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven. Let us rejoice and be glad.
Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE:

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. In fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. As your Word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Lighting of the Candles *(When all candles are lit, please start walking outside.)*

*Gathering Outside Carol	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i> (Vs. 1-4)	Words on reverse.
*Christmas Blessing		
*Blessing Carol	<i>Joy to the World</i> (Vs. 1)	Words on reverse.