

# ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2025

4:00, 5:30 & 7:00PM

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIVE WORSHIP

To access our live worship, please [click here](#).

### PRELUDE

*"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"*

Celebration Ringers

## GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Everyone is welcome here tonight! Come as you are and hear the story of God's birth.

**All: Unto us a child is born! He is Christ, our Savior!**

Leader: His name is Emmanuel, which means

"God is with us"!

**All: Jesus is our light in the midst of the darkness.**

Leader: On this night, a choir of angels filled the sky and announced God's gift to the world. So, tonight we will join our voices with them.

**All: We come to rejoice and sing the story of God's gift of Christmas. Amen.**

### HYMN

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

#238

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria, In excelsis Deo! Gloria, In excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

See Him in a manger laid,  
Whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise.

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### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

**4:00PM** Cruikshank Family

**5:30PM** Brooks Family

**7:00PM** Phillips Family

Throughout the year we affirm our faith in Christ. We claim our belief that Jesus is the Son of God. That He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. That He was born as the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was prophesied.

This same Jesus is now affirmed to be born and welcome to live today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and our total commitment in His welcome tonight.

In Jesus Christ our HOPE is fulfilled; our LOVE is consummated; our JOY is complete; and our PEACE is sealed.

Advent HOPE moves us; Advent LOVE leads us;  
Advent JOY stirs us; Advent PEACE stills us, that we might be ready to affirm our King Jesus. Tonight we consider this full GIFT of CHRISTmas named Jesus. Please stand as we light the Christ Candle.

Behold, The Light of the World! **Welcome, Jesus!**

### HYMN

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

#234

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,  
Lo, He shuns not the Virgin's womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

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## A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

*"Singing The Story of Jesus' Birth"*

### FIRST LESSON Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

*"The King Who Is Coming Will Reign with Justice and Peace for All"*

**CAROL** *"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

(see insert)

### SECOND LESSON Luke 1:26-38

*"The Angel Visits Mary"*

**CAROL** *"What Child is This?"*

(see insert)

### THIRD LESSON Luke 2:1-7

*"In the Midst of Oppression, Jesus Is Born."*

### OFFERTORY

**4:00PM** *"The Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth"*

Matt Hall and Tim Benson

**5:30PM** *"Do You Hear What I Hear?"*

Chancel Choir

**7:00PM** *"O Holy Night"*

Matt Wallace and Tim Benson

### FOURTH LESSON Luke 2: 8-16

*"The Shepherds and the Angels"*

**CAROL** *"The First Noel"*

(see insert)

### CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

### CHRISTMAS EVE REFLECTION

Rev. Richard Luna

### CONFESSION & PARDON

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness...

... 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...

... 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 God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### COMMUNION SHARING & THANKSGIVING

### SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST John 1:1-14

**\*CAROL** *"Silent Night, Holy Night"*

(see insert)

### GOING FORTH

As we leave here, may we know that we are not alone. The God of yesterday and tomorrow knows you by name. And God loves you. So, live your life with boldness and justice and Grace. —And come back soon! Amen.

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*Remember that the real light of Christ resides deep within you, not on your candle! As you leave, please make sure that your candle is extinguished and carefully returned in the box by the door!*

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*The altar flowers this Christmas Eve are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Fred & Anna Davis, whose love and faith continue to guide us still.*

*- The Davis Family  
Dianna, Tomi Gay, Chip, and Jill*

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*QR Code provided for your tithes and offerings.  
Thank you.*



## ***Christmas Poinsettias***

***The poinsettias which grace our sanctuary this holiday season are given to the glory of God in memory and honor of those who have touched our lives.***

### ***In Loving Honor of:***

***My daughter Lisa Swanson by Linda King***

***My daughter, Leslee Frazier by Linda King***

***Jeff Clary by Carol & Gary Pikett***

***Jesus, for all He's done for me by Kathie Psencik***

***The Sojourners Sunday School Class by Linda Seay***

***All the volunteers who serve by Linda Seay***

***My new great grandson Bennett Michael Mcie by  
Mary Ann Williams***

***In Loving Memory of:***

**Wanda & Ralph Plummer and Ann & W.E. Andy Andrews** by Wanda Lee & Andy Andrews

**Viola Gless** by Linda G. Bays

**“Tot” Ferguson** by Linda G. Bays

**Mary “Mimi” Gless** by Linda G. Bays

**Sue Zanne & Dan Boone** by Vicky, Dan, Neal, and Margie, with love

**Max Burn** by Judy Burn

**Kathy Callahan Curtis** by Erin Curtis and Andy Curtis

**Edna Mae & Tom Callahan** by Erin Curtis and Andy Curtis

**Dorothy Wright** by Erin Curtis and Andy Curtis

**Raymond Curtis** by Erin Curtis and Andy Curtis

**William G. & Mary Wright** by Erin Curtis and Andy Curtis

**Johnnie Stokes** by Susan Farris

**Priscilla McMillion** by Susan Farris

**Violet Harlan** by Kay Harlan

**Our Parents** by Sandy & Frank Hayward

**Ron Hricko, my husband, our father and grandfather** by The Hricko and Robison Families

**Mr. & Mrs. Walt Wilson, our grandparents** by The Hricko and Robison Families

**Carol Smith** by Ginger Johnson

**My husband, Lindley King** by Linda King

**Carole & Reed Clarkson** by Cara, Sydney, and Zachary Longshore

**Gary Louvar** by Kathy Louvar

**Michael A. Moore** by Linda & Ron Moore and family

**Shirley & Bill Morefield** by Vona & Klip Morefield

**Sheelagh & James Nicholl** by Margaret & Malcolm Nicholl

**Margaret & Thomas McNally** by Margaret & Malcolm Nicholl

**Margaret Millar, Mildred Cox and Bill McNally** by Margaret & Malcolm Nicholl

**Our parents** by Carol & Gary Pikett

**Marjorie & Bill Dye** by Maggie Smiley

**Jamesene & Ralph Smiley** by Maggie Smiley

**Bruce Smiley, Sr.** by Maggie Smiley

**Michael Sojourner** by Beth Sojourner

**Bob Sunday** by Mary Sunday

**E.B. Telford** by Carolyn Telford

**David Thayer** by Frances Thayer

**Tyler John Macha** by Claire & Austin Vaughn

**Edith & Al Loveland** by Claire & Austin Vaughn

**Our parents** by Chuck Wharton

**Rick Evans** by Chuck Wharton

**Larry Walker** by Donna Walker

**Ethel & Cam Williams** by Cathy & Philip Williams

**My nephew, Andy Walker** by Mary Ann Williams