

BREAKING THE BREAD AND GIVING THE CUP

In the Bleak Midwinter by Larsen
Cheryl Cunningham on Harp

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

▲ PROCESSION OF THE HOLY FAMILY TO THE NATIVITY

▲ LIGHTING THE CANDLES

As you pass the light to your neighbor, remember to keep the lighted candle upright and tip the unlighted one into the flame. During the candle service we will sing all stanzas of Franz Gruber's beloved "Silent Night" at No. 239.

▲ CHRISTMAS BLESSING

▲ RESPONSE *Joy to the World* (1) No. 246

POSTLUDE Improvisation on *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*
by the Lehman Ringers
Improvisation on *A Christmas Carol*
by organist Charles de Mets

Acknowledgements

Our many and sincere thanks to all who have made this service possible. We owe much to the musicians, staff, ushers, greeters, communion stewards, and the Chancel Committee.
Thank you!



LEHMAN MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
300 S. YORK RD., HATBORO, PA 19040

LEHMANUMC.ORG
215.675.2110

Christmas Eve 2018 8:00: A Classic Service of Word, Table, Carols, Candles, and Holy Communion

PRELUDE *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* Plainsong
Cheryl Cunningham on Harp

ANTHEM *That Night* Evans
Sanctuary Choir and Disciples Quartet
Cheryl Cunningham on Harp
Ruth Kuchinsky-Smith, Director

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Nancy Ludwig

Pastor: On this holy night, we come with the shepherds in stunned wonder.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Pastor: On this holy night, we come with Mary and Joseph in hope and joy.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Pastor: On this holy night, we come with choirs of angels singing glad songs.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Pastor: On this holy night, we come to the manger in wonder, awe, and amazement.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

▲ HYMN *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* No. 240

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Pastor: Christ is born! Give him glory!

People: Christ has come! Receive him!

Pastor: Christ is now on earth! Exalt his holy name!

People: Christ is here! Let us praise the Word made Flesh!

OPENING PRAYER

O God of profound love, we rejoice in celebrating the birth of Jesus. He came so long ago among the poor and forgotten to bring the rich power of your grace to make us new. As you have blessed us with life, length of days, noble work, and people to love us, so now let our lives be spent loving and blessing others. With the whole earth, with all the host of heaven, we shout for joy in the coming of the Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INTERLUDE	<i>Away in the Manger</i>	Tune by Kirkpatrick
FIRST READING	Isaiah 9:2-7	Pew Bible (OT), p. 638
▲ HYMN	<i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel (1,2,6)</i>	No. 211
CANTICLE (Response 2)	<i>Of Light and Darkness</i>	No. 205
HYMN	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	No. 217
SECOND READING	Titus 2:11-14	Pew Bible (NT), p. 215
▲ HYMN	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	No. 230
▲ GOSPEL READING	Luke 2:1-16	Pew Bible (NT), p. 58
ANTHEM	<i>A Manger Carol</i> Sanctuary Choir and Disciples Quartet Cheryl Cunningham on Harp, Ruth Kuchinsky-Smith, Director	Wood
SERMON	<i>All the Old Familiar Faces</i>	Pastor Bill Lentz
▲ HYMN	<i>There's a Song in the Air</i>	No. 249

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S WORLD

INTERLUDE

One Small Child

Meece

Lehman Ringers, Ruth Kuchinsky-Smith, Director

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

All the baptized are welcome to commune at this table of the Lord. If you are not baptized, but you desire to receive Jesus, then you too are welcome at this table. We ask that you seek us out for spiritual care. Holy Communion will be received by the method of intinction. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. You are invited to leave your offering on the plates on the rails.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess we have shunned the light that reveals the truth about us and the world. We cling to worldly things and trust ourselves too much. Save your people, O God. Heal the sorrow within our hearts. Free us to live the Gospel boldly. Hear our prayer for light and truth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND THE PEACE

GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR THE NATIVITY FEAST

No. 17

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, Merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to partake of this sacrament of your Son Jesus Christ, that we may walk in a life renewed, may grow into his likeness, and may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.