

▲ BLESSING THE PEOPLE

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

POSTLUDE *Come, O Long Expected Jesus* C. Wesley

Serving God and You Today

Preacher: The Rev. J. William Lentz, Jr. Liturgist: The Rev. Nancy M. Ludwig

Director of Music: Ruth Kuchinsky-Smith Organist: Charles de Mets

Reader: Chuck McClain

Greeters: Belle Sheedy, 8:15; Margie Fleming, 9:30;
Carol Bixby, 11:00

Head Usher: Al Zollers

Ushers: Lyn Matthew, Dick Rapson, Charlie Rumbel, 8:15
Susan Dever, Mike Dever, Jim Iaia, Ben Iaia, 11:00

Sound and Video: Brad Beck, Ed Travis, Rudy Cieri, Kris Borcheck

Acknowledgments

It is with an expression of joy that we thank all those who made today's Christmas Pageant such a special moment in the worship service.
Thanks to all of you!



LEHMAN MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PEOPLE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

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December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* Morning Song Tune
Charles de Mets, Organist

APOSTOLIC BLESSING AND WELCOME Pastor Bill Lentz

Welcome to our service of worship. Your presence is a great joy to us. Our hope is that you'll feel welcome and that the Spirit of God will touch your soul in worship. Please sign the *Covenant of Fellowship*, sharing as much information with which you are comfortable, and then pass it down the pew for others to sign.

▲ denotes, please stand if comfortable.

▲ CHIMES

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Nancy Ludwig

Pastor : God has come to us as a child.

People: Our hearts leap for joy!

Pastor : God is coming to us as Judge and Savior.

People: Let us be found worthy to receive him!

▲ HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful (1,2,3,4)* No. 234

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Reader: With love in our hearts, we light the fourth candle of Advent.

Pastor: As the flame kindles the candle with light, so the light kindles the heart with love. In the love of Christ, we hear the Angel Gabriel's voice uttering a stupendous witness to Mary. Mary's response awes and fills us with God's grace and light.

Reader: We can share stories of people who have struggled this past year, yet said yes when asked. We know of times when God has filled us and our world with blessing. We too remember times of great joy when, although someone began in a struggle, God filled that difficult situation with hope, peace, joy, and love, transforming the person into an example of faith, like Mary is.

Pastor: Mary was a strong and wise young woman. Even though her life was not easy, she heard God's voice, and she said yes. Her song was a request that would uplift those who were downtrodden. Her lyrics shattered the proud and called the world to change. She would bear within her womb the promised child, Jesus, the Light of the world. Let us, when given the chance, respond to God's beckoning to us as well.

People: Revealing God, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring your Good news to life within us. Give us courage to carry your light into the injustices and shadowlands of this world. Amen.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

INTERLUDE *All Praise Be Yours, My God* T. Tallis

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Chuck McClain

READINGS OF THE DAY

Micah 5:2-5a (OT) p. 865; and Luke 1:47-55 (NT) p. 57 in the Pew Bible

ANTHEM *Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child* arr. Hayes
Disciples with Sanctuary Choir, Ruth Kuchinsky-Smith, Director
Noah Smith on Bass and Thomas Razler on Alto Saxophone

REFLECTION ON LAST DAYS OF ADVENT Pastor Bill Lentz

▲ HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem* No. 230

▲ ADVENT PRAYER No. 201

OFFERINGS OF GRATITUDE *Keep Awake, Be Always Ready* J.S. Bach

▲ PROCESSION OF GRATITUDE *Doxology* No. 95

▲ PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

In these moments of giving, O God, remind us of those who are yearning to be lifted to their feet, of those who hunger for food and hope, of those who look for peace and safety. May our offerings be used to serve your people, in your holy name. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE *Gloria, Gloria*

THE LORD'S PRAYER No. 895

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