



First UMC Elgin

*Christmas Eve Worship Service*

# Christmas Eve Worship Service

**Prelude**

**Jonathan Besançon**

**Welcome**

**Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy**

**Opening Prayer**

**Elizabeth Zuniga**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

**Justin and Debbie Potts**

**Congregational Prayer**

**Justin Potts**

*God who is always with us, may the spirit of Christmas, the Spirit of Christ be with us throughout the coming year. We thank you for the hope, joy, and peace that we experience in You and pray that we may be living vessels for your promises to be made flesh in our world today. IN the name of the Christ Child we pray. Amen.*

**Hymn**

**Debbie Potts**

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

*United Methodist Hymnal #234*

**Reading**

**Cindy Palm, Lay Servant**

**“And It Begins...An Interpretation from Isaiah”**

**Hymn**

**Debbie Potts**

**“Angels We Have Heard on High”**

*United Methodist Hymnal #238*

**Joseph’s Story**

**Daniel Jostes**

**Hymn**

**Rev. Tanya Walker**

**“The First Noel”**

*United Methodist Hymnal #245*

*Sign Language by Debbie Potts*

# Christmas Eve Worship Service

**The Shepherd's Story**

**Jack and Kevin Duffy**

**Hymn**

**Debbie Potts**

**"Away in a Manger"**

*United Methodist Hymnal #217*

**Mary's Story**

**Veronica Iwanski**

**Song**

**Rev. Tanya Walker**

**"Mary, Did You Know?"**

*Accompanied by Jonathan Besançon*

**Christmas Message**

**Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy**

**Prepare A Place**

**Luke 2:1-20 (RSV)**

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled (counted). 2This was the first enrollment, when Quirin'i-us was governor of Syria. 3And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. 4And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. 7And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. 10And the angel said to the them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people;

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## Christmas Message continued

Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

<sup>11</sup>For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>”Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!”

<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to the Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## Hymn

Debbie Potts and Rev. Tanya Walker

### “Silent Night”

*United Methodist Hymnal #239*

## Hymn

Debbie Potts

### “Joy to the World”

*United Methodist Hymnal #246*

## Sending Forth

Rev. Dr. Felicia LaBoy

## Postlude

Jonathan Besançon