

*CAROL UMH 239
Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and Child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

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!

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.

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!

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY
Good Christian Friends Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

St. Luke 2:1-20

The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor.....Rev. Charles Phillips
Minister of Children and Youth.....Rev. Shelly Holder
Church Administrative Assistant.....Libby Doster
Director of Preschool.....Novice Baker

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First United Methodist Church Lancaster, South Carolina



*And the Word became flesh
and lived among us...*

John 1:14a

Monday, December 24, 2018

Christmas Eve

Encountering God

Building Community

Transforming Lives

This evening we welcome guest musicians

Johnny Davidson, Piano,
Alex Wilborn, Principal Trumpeter Charlotte Symphony.

Christmas Eve Worship

PRELUDE

*Good Christian Friends Rejoice
Still, Still, Still
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
In the Bleak Midwinter*

IN DULCI JUBILO
WALTER EHRET
ES IST EIN ROS
CRANHAM

A WORD OF WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Hallelujah

arr. LINDSEY STIRLING
Lana Geiger, violin

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL UMH 240

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

*OPENING PRAYER

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

*RESPONSE TO THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

L: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

P: **A light no darkness can overcome.**

CAROL UMH 218

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!
For lo!, the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time fore-told
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

CAROL

Away in a Manger

Lana Geiger, violin

AWAY IN A MANGER

SECOND LESSON

Psalms 96

THE GOSPEL

Message

Luke 2:1-20

"To Bethlehem"

Pastor Charles

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

This offering is for community outreach ministries.

OFFERTORY

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

Michael Clancy, Dwight McPherson, Sam Wood

Congregation join in on last refrain

*O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
west-ward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light*

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

*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... 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...
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... Through your Son Jesus Christ, with
the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours,
almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and
the glory, forever. Amen.**

*BREAKING THE BREAD

The celebrant breaks the bread and then lifts the cup.

*SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

The bread and wine are given to the people.

Unfermented juice is served.

You will receive a candle as you return to your seat.

*MUSIC DURING COMMUNION-two verses each

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus UMH 196

O Little Town of Bethlehem UMH 230

HYFRYDOL

ST LOUIS

A SERVICE OF LIGHT

*As Silent Night is sung and the lights are being dimmed, the
acolyte will light a candle from the Christ Candle and will
pass the light to the congregation.*

*Please remember that the lighted candle remains upright, and
the candle to be lit is tipped to be lighted. Before leaving the
pew at the end of the service, please extinguish your candle,
and place them in the containers at the exits.*

*Please lift your candles high on the last verse of the carol
in homage to our Emmanuel.*