



United Methodist
Church of Summit



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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele

Director of Music: JoAnne Teubner Prussak

Children, Youth, and Families Minister: Natalie Palacio

Facilities Manager: Geraldo Rivera

December 24th, 2022

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 9pm

Welcome to the United Methodist Church of Summit! We invite you to join us on a journey of faith, worshiping and serving God.

PRELUDE

“Canon in D”

J. Pachelbel

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH The Reyes Family

Reader One: Throughout the season of Advent we have experienced and remembered the hope, peace, joy, and love of God come to be with us through the incarnation.

(Light four blue candles)

Reader Two: Tonight we gather together and light candles in honor of the Christ Child. With the birth of Christ, salvation has drawn near. The God who ordered the chaos of the universe has come down into the chaos of our world.

Reader (one or three?) The Word which was with God at the beginning came down and lived with us. While we were yet living in the valley of the shadow of death, the light of new life burst forth. We light this candle in honor of the Prince of Peace.

(Light center white candle)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Rev. Laura Steele

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: Sing choirs of angels!

People: Sing in exaltation!

Leader: Let the shepherds in the fields rejoice.

People: Let the stars in the sky worship the newborn king.

Leader: For Heaven has come down to Earth!

People: Salvation has come this day.

Leader: Sing Choirs of angels!

People: Sing in exaltation!

***CENTERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)* Rev. Laura Steele
God of Immeasurable Gifts, we come this evening to the manger, gazing lovingly on the Savior born to bring hope to the world. Open our hearts tonight as we experience the story anew. Help us to be guided by the Light of Jesus Christ, that we may truly feel the power of your love and bring that love, with joy, to all we meet. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1-4) UMH #234
(please remain standing as you are able)

LESSONS AND CAROLS: THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN WORD AND SONG

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7 Latonia Hall
The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

***CAROL** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vv. 1, 3) UMH #211

THE SECOND LESSON Isaiah 11:1-9 Shela Waldron
The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all of God's Creation.

Special Music "A Jubliant Peal" Bell Choir

THE THIRD LESSON Luke 1:26-38 Carol Conway
The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.

***CAROL** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (vv. 1, 2) UMH #230

THE FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7 Isabel Reyes
Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born in a stable.

Special Music "Gesy Bambino" P.Yon, Brett Kendall

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:8-20 Alison Johnson
The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.

***CAROL** *The First Noel* (vv. 1, 2) UMH #230

THE SIXTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-12 Parker La Jeunesse
The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

Special Music: *il est ne, le divin enfant* arr. Jesse Reyes, Guitar

THE SEVENTH LESSON John 1:1-14 Beverly Alexis
John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

Special Music *Can You Hear the Angels* Chancel Choir

REFLECTION “A Tough Nut to Crack” Rev. Laura Steele

OFFERING

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

O Holy Night

William Teubner, Trumpet

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SPREADING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*CAROL

Silent Night

UMH #239

(The Christ candle will be lit from the altar and shared with the first two pews. Please share your light with the person next to you, persons on the end pass to the pew behind)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Christmas Oratorio”

C. Saint Saens

** Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.*

Chancel Fowers at Christmas 2022

Dorothy and Martin Koernig in loving memory of our mom Dorothy McGriffin and Grandma. In honor of our grandchildren, Lizzy, Sarah and Erin

The Barry Family in loving memory of our parents. In honor of Granny

Beverly Alexis in loving memory of our beloved mother Joyce Smith, your children. In honor of our dear aunt Norma Dowe your children and nieces

The Relf Family in loving memory of Bert and Joy Baker

Joan Bollman and Family in loving memory George Bollman and in honor of Family-Friends

The Johnson Family Neil, Alison, Will and Maddie in loving memory of Pamela Johnson and in honor of Kathie Whipps

Maria Caneiro in loving memory of the Caneiro family and Gonzalez and Veloso Families in honor of Cuba

Myrene and Jesse Reyes in loving memory of Gladys Martin

Debbi Picorale in loving memory of her mom, dad and brother

Marg and Alf Edwards in loving memory of Rod Edwards Jr

Dotti and Bob Zotti in honor of Irma George

The Halverson Family in loving memory of Mary Halverson, William Galaini and Theresa Galaini

Kim, Faye and Adrian in loving memory of our wonderful and fantastic mother Shela Waldron – we love you



Christmas Morning Service **Dec. 25th, 10:30am**

Join us Christmas morning as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Come in your Christmas jammies or dressed to the nines! We will sing our favorite Christmas Carols and have cookies and hot chocolate after service.

Music Ministry Update

Chancel Choir: Resumes January 29th

Come and join us as we sing joyful and meaningful songs to the Lord! It's a joy to work together and lift our voices in praise of our Maker. The Chancel Choir rehearses each Sunday morning at 9:30am in the Sanctuary

Wesley Singers: Resumes January 28th

Children and youth who would like to sing songs of faith please share your gifts of music on Saturday morning at 11:30am in our Sanctuary. We will make a joyful sound to the Lord.

Bell Choir: Resumes January 29th

Come and try ringing hand bells and hand chimes with your church friends. Rehearsals are Sundays at 11:30 am in the Sanctuary. Ring songs of praise

Singing Believers: Resumes January 29th

We welcome all children 4 years old and up, to sing joyful songs of the church each Sunday at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. Please have a snack at coffee hour, then come back to church to share fun songs of faith.

Contemporary Ensemble: Resumes January 29

Our Contemporary Ensemble shares music for Holy Communion each month. The Ensemble uses music from the contemporary hymnals "The Faith We Sing" and "Worship and Song". Rehearsals will be on Sundays and 12:15pm in the Sanctuary.

Children, Youth and Family Ministries Update

Drama Club and Sunday School will be taking a break until Sunday, January 29th.

