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Pastor: Rev. Laura Steele

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Children, Youth, and Families Minister: Carrie-Lee Farnham

Facilities Manager: Geraldo Rivera Office Manager: Joey Bustillos Seminary Intern: Dadi Hove

# December 24th, 2022 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:30pm

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" Johann Pachelbel

#### **GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Leming/La Jeunesse Family

**Reader One:** To a people longing for hope and yearning for deliverance, the prophet Isaiah declared, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them a great light has shined...For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:2, 6)

**Reader Two:** Today, we come seeking hope, peace, joy, and love, and we find these things in a child. God come to Earth as a baby in a manger. A baby who is both the beginning and the end of our salvation, who dwells with us even now, our Emmanuel, God with us.

Congregation: We live as people in the in-between who celebrate the arrival of the Light that shines in lost and broken places as we wait for the day when we will live in the fullness of God's kingdom.

Reader Three: We light these candles as signs of our hope, peace, joy, and love. (*light four blue candles*) Jesus Christ, our wondrous Light. May the Light burning in our hearts guide us, comfort us, protect us, and tend us in all seasons and circumstances. We light the Christ candle as a symbol of Your light in the darkness and the Good News that God is with us. (*light the center white candle*)

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Rev. Laura Steele

(please rise as you are able)

Leader: The people who once lived in darkness have been given a

great light!

People: Praise be to God who has heard our cries.

Leader: Our souls sing out God's praises!

People: God has brought us a light of Hope and Peace.

Leader: Here, in this place, the Light of God's Love is given to us! **People: May that light shine through our lives for all the world** 

to see.

\*CENTERING PRAYER: (in unison) Rev. Laura Steele Holy God of Love, there is light in our lives because of the abundance of your steadfast love. A love so vast, so deep, so real, that you became one of us. May we live within the power of that love. And may we share its light with a world where all too many dwell in darkness. 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 Alison Johnson 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 Jesse Reyes 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 "Bethlehem" Marilyn Thornton Contemporary Ensemble

**THE THIRD LESSON** Luke 1:26-38 Latonia Hall 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 Carol Conway Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born in a stable.

Special Music: "Infant Redeemer" Thomas Fettke
Chancel Choir

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

\*CAROL "The First Noel" (vv. 1, 2) UMH #245

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

Special Music: *"The Wondrous Story"* Don Besig Latonia Hall and Ximenita Gonzalez

**THE SEVENTH LESSON** John 1:1-14 Emily La Janeusse John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

\*CAROL "Joy to the World" UMH #246

**REFLECTION** "Making Room" Rev. Laura Steele

**OFFERING** 

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

"O Holy Night" Apolphe Adams William Teubner, Trumpet

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH #95

#### 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 2023**



**Dottie and Mark Koernig** in loving memory of our mom Dorothy McGriffin and Grandma. In honor of our children Bob, Leslie and Emily and our grandchildren, Elizabeth, Sarah and Erin

**Steve and Janet Daniel** in loving memory of Frank, Doris, Barry, Dick and Marion

**Maria Caneiro** in loving memory of my husband Roberto Caneiro and his family and in honor of Gonzalez family and Veloso family

Jesse Reyes in honor of Angie Reyes

Marg and Alf Edwards in honor of our SUMC Staff

Dotti and Bob Zotti in honor of our children and grand children

**Kim, Faye and Adrian** in honor of Shela Waldron. XOXO Love you to the moon and back

#### This Week's Schedule

#### Sunday, December 24:

9:30am-10:00am Instrumentalists (Sanctuary)
9:30am-10:15am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
9:30am-10;15am Drama Club (Education Room)
10:15am-10:25am Singing Believers (Sanctuary)

10:30am-11:30am In-person/online Worship (Sanctuary)

10:45am-11:30am Children's Sunday School (Education Room) 7:30pm-9:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)

7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

### Monday, December 25:

7:45pm-9:30pm Gamblers Anonymous (Fellowship Room and Chapel)

### Tuesday, December 26:

9:30am-10:15am Baby Bandstand (Social Hall) 7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

# Wednesday, December 27:

7:15pm-9:15pm Toastmasters (Social Hall)

### Thursday, December 28:

1:30pm-5:00pm CPR (Chapel)

### Friday, December 29

7:30pm-8:30pm Pilgrim Group (Basement)

### Saturday, December 30:

2:00pm-11:00pm EMC Shalom (Fellowship Room)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **Christmas Outreach Project**

Angel Tree Christmas™ equips churches and other organizations to restore and strengthen relationships between incarcerated parents and their children and families. Every Christmas, Angel Tree mobilizes local churches and organizations to minister to hundreds of thousands of

children by delivering a gift,

the Gospel message, and a personal message of love on behalf of their mom or dad behind bars. Will you help us by sponsoring a child this season? Please take an angel from the tree in the Social Hal or



visit www.umcsummit.org, or simply scan the QR code above to access the virtual giving page.

# Christmas Eve Services Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup>



10:30AM and 7:30PM

10:30AM: Family Friendly Service with Children's Pageant 7:30PM: Traditional Candlelight Service with Lessons and Carols





# This is a wonderful time to consider sharing your musical gifts as we praise Our Lord!

The Music Ministry line up is as follows: Saturdays: 12:00-1:00 Chancel Choir 1:00-1:45 Contemporary Ensemble

2:00-3:30 Instrumental

Sundays: 9:30-10:15 Chancel Choir, 10:30 Worship,

11:45 Bell Choir, 12:15 Singing Believers Children's Choir For more information please email JoAnne Teubner Prussak.

office@umcsummit.org

## **CYF Ministries Update**

