THE ORDER OF WORSHIP Christmas Eve Service 7pm

PRELUDE

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Opening Prayer

Open us, O God, to hear again the message of the angels,
and to go in heart and mind with the shepherds to Bethlehem
to see the glorious redemption you have brought to pass
through the Newborn lying in a manger. **Amen.**

\*CAROL (unison) O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.

Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

Refrain: O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him,

Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choir of angels, sing in exultation. O Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest. (Repeat Refrain.)

 ***ADVENT WREATH Reading***

***Lighting of the Candles***

 ***“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” UMH 211 All Verses***

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

THE BIRTH OF JESUS SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:1-7

CAROL (unison) **Away in a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:8-14

CAROL (unison) **Hark! the Herald Angels Sing**

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 the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:15-20

 CAROL (unison) **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains, And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ who comes in lowly birth. Come adore on bended knee Jesus, joy of heav’n and earth. (Repeat refrain.)

THE VISIT OF THE WISE MEN SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12

CAROL (unison) **We Three Kings of Orient Are**

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to the perfect light.

Celebration of Holy Communion Hymnal page 14

\*Taking forth the Light of Christ

Pastor Nancy; The light shines in the Darkness

People: And the Darkness shall not over come it!

\*CAROL (unison) **Silent Night, Holy Night**

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.

 CHRISTMAS BLESSING

POSTLUDE