

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. 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.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray: **Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed by 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.**

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ. The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

Special Music by Lena Choi

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Lighting of Christmas Candle

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

Carol

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

UMH#239

Benediction

As we leave this place tonight, may the light of Christ go with us, guiding our steps and filling our hearts with His love. Let us carry the hope, peace, joy, and love of this season into the world, sharing the light of Jesus wherever we go. Go in peace, and may the grace of God shine upon you, now and always. Amen.

Thank you for joining the Christmas Eve worship service. Please extinguish the candlelight and place your candle in a box at the back of the sanctuary.

Merry Christmas!



**United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2024
7:00 PM**

Video

Words of Welcome

**Lighting of the Christ Candle—Boudreau Family
“The First Noel” UMH#245 vs. 1**

Call to Worship

L: In war, we find peace.

P: Christ is our peace.

L: In sorrow, we find joy.

P: Christ is our joy.

L: In fear, we find love.

P: Christ is our love.

L: In darkness, we seek light.

P: Christ is our light.

L: In bondage, we find freedom.

P: Christ is our freedom.

L: In death, we're promised life.

P: Christ is our life.

L: We await a child, born to change everything.

All: Alleluia! Christ is born! Let us worship with joy! Amen.

Opening Prayer

Loving God, on this sacred night, we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light who has come into our world. As we come together in worship, open our hearts to receive the joy and peace Jesus brings. Help us to quiet our minds and focus on the true meaning of this season—God with us. May the light of Christ fill this place and guide us through the darkness, offering hope, love, and renewal. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Opening Hymn **“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”** **UMH#240**

Passing the Peace of Christ—“Merry Christmas”

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7 (NIV)

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

For as in the day of Midian’s defeat, you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior’s boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Piano Solo **“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”** **Lena Choi**

Message **“Darkness for Light”** **Pastor Peter Choi**

Hymn **“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”** **UMH#251**

Offering

Special Music **“Still, Still, Still” &** **Chloe Choi**
“The Little Cradle Rocks Tonight in Glory”

Offertory Prayer

Light of the World, our praise and adoration meet you on this holiest of nights.
May our hearts and offerings reflect the light of love born tonight. In the name of
Christ, we pray. Amen.

Holy Communion

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before
God and one another.

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We
have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have bro-
ken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neigh-
bors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us
for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.**

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the
name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Life 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,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You created light out of darkness and
brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the
breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained stead-
fast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and
spoke to us through your prophets. In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Je-
sus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest
and peace to your people on earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the com-
pany 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 our
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. As Mary and Joseph went from
Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusa-
lem and was despise and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so
by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water
and the Spirit. As your Word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so,
on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is
given for you. Do this in remembrance of me”. When the supper was over he took the
cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the for-
giveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” 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.