



Saturday December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve

Hope United Methodist Church

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Church office hours are 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM; Tuesday & Thursday

Christmas Eve Celebration December 24, 2022

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: He's coming! He's coming! The Savior of the World is coming!

P: Let us prepare our hearts to greet him!

L: He comes to each one of us, healing and restoring our lives!

P: Praise be to God for God's mighty gift to us.

L: O Come, Prince of Peace, bring your light to us!

P: We are ready to receive you in our lives! AMEN.

*Hymn "O Come All Ye Faithful" UMH 234 (verses 1,2,5,6)

*Unison Prayer

Glorious God, who presents us with the most precious of gifts, we praise you for all your blessings in our lives. Tonight we have come to this place, in the midst of a busy time. We might not even have everything ready at home, yet we have come, because we ourselves need to be ready. Work in our hearts this night, preparing us for your presence. Work in our lives that we may reach out to others in comfort and compassion; work in our world that the darkness that has encompassed it may be dispelled by the brightness of your love and your Gift. In faith and expectation, we pray. AMEN.

*Hymn "The First Noel" UMH 245 (verses 1-4)

Children's Message/Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Christmas Caroling

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Sermon "The Christmas Song" Rev. Lee Miller

*Hymn "Go Tell It On the Mountain" UMH 251

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

*Hymn "Silent Night" UMH 239

*Benediction

*Hymn "Joy to the World" UMH 246

Luke 2:1-20

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to 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. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

*¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."*

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.