



United Methodist Church of Antioch

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022

7:00pm

PRELUDE *Gesù Bambino*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today Family Friendly Worship Service, 5pm
 Traditional Communion Service, 7pm

Sun, Dec. 25 Christmas Day
 Worship, 9:15am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Please Note: Pastor Katie will be on vacation following the Christmas Day 9:15am service through January 1. The office will be closed during this time. If you need pastoral assistance while Pastor Katie is away, please contact Dawn Vogel or Carol Dunn for the on-call pastor's information. Also, please know Pastor Katie turns her cell phone off while on vacation, so she will not receive your calls, voicemail, texts, or email until she returns. Merry Christmas to all, and let us rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior!

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Mike & Valerie Lapke

MISSION STATEMENT (Unison)

The mission of the United Methodist Church of Antioch is to grow in faith; to worship God following the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to be instruments of God's love through the Holy Spirit as we reach out to our community and the world.

** Invites you to stand as you are able, or to sit with gusto!*

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND WELCOME

***PRAYER (Unison):** Loving God, lead us to accept the gift, which you bring this night as we worship you and bow before you. Show us that the star shines before us if we will but see it; that the song of great joy is sung for us if we will but hear it; that the Prince of Peace is born in our midst if we will but give him a place. Teach us tonight to run with the shepherds, to kneel with the kings, and to sing your praises with all your saints. Amen.

Hymn UMH #217

Away in a Manger

Musical Accompaniment: Owen Richards on trombone

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS: A LOVE STORY

(Scripture Readings with Commentary)

A GALILEAN COUPLE

Matthew 1:18-23

A LITTLE TOWN – BETHLEHEM

Luke 2:1-7

HYMN UMH #238

Angels We Have Heard on High

THE SHEPHERDS SEE AND HEAR

Luke 2:8-20

HYMN UMH #240

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

A CONSECRATED LIFE

Luke 2:21-32

Service of Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession (Unison): God of light, we are frightened by what you might expect of us if we get too close to the manger. Many enticements draw our attention away from this holy place. Our worldly passions have led us into comfortable ruts. We admit that some are mere time-killers but others

seem to have real value to us. What more can a baby offer us? Of what use is a Messiah who ends up on a cross? O God, teach us what salvation is all about. Heal the emptiness that gives rise to our misplaced loyalties and distorted dreams. We want to be whole people, experiencing wholesome relationships, giving ourselves to worthy causes. Amen.

The child of Bethlehem becomes for us the Wonderful Counselor whose life points us to new priorities. Away from our frantic busyness, we find true peace on our knees. The truth is dawning in us and among us. Good news of great joy fills us with hope. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God in the highest heaven!

CHRISTMAS CAROL COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

What Child is This

DOXOLOGY

WE DEDICATE OUR GIFTS TO GOD (Unison): Loving God, thank you for sending Jesus to earth. He not only taught us about love, he lived love, and ultimately, he is love. Take what we freely give and multiply it for use to make your love known in our world today. Amen.

***THE PROCLAMATION**

John 1:1-5, 10-14

*** SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

(Please dip your unlit candle into a lit one)

Silent Night, Holy Night

Musical Accompaniment: Sarah Gillette & Hannah Richards on flute

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**

***CLOSING HYMN**

Silent Night (vs. 4)

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us
sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

***POSTLUDE**

Joy to the World

Red indicates “The United Methodist Hymnal” *Black* indicates “The Faith We Sing”
-OneLicense # A-739071

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