

Welcome & Prayer

*Opening Song — “O Holy Night”

*Confession and Forgiveness

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love;

According to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

You are right in Your verdict and justified when You judge.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice.

Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God’s love for those who fear Him;

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

*Prayer of the Evening

What will it take, loving God, for this to be a time of wonder and renewal?

We have nothing to offer You except our spiritual yearning. In Your kindness, please take us as we are, and by the invasive joy of Your Holy Spirit, grow our words into reverence and heartfelt praise. Through the name of Christ Jesus we pray. Amen!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath — Christ Candle

Song — “Light One Candle to Watch For Messiah”

Scripture — Isaiah 11:1-6 *(please remain seated)*

¹ A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. ² The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord— ³ and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.

Song — “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Christmas Gospel — Luke 1:30-35 *(please remain seated)*

³⁰ But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call Him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of his father David, ³³ and He will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; His kingdom will never end.” ³⁴ “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”

Song — “Noel”

Christmas Gospel — Luke 2:4-7 *(please remain seated)*

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.

Song — “What Child Is This?”

Christmas Video — “The Wonder of His Birth”

*Christmas Gospel — Luke 2:8-18 *(please stand for the reading of the Gospel)*

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.

Children's Message

*Song — "Joy to the World"

Sermon — "Who Is This Child?"

Prayers of the Church

Holy Communion

*Words of Institution for Holy Communion

*Lord's Prayer

Distribution Songs — Special Music

"Sweet Little Jesus Boy" by Dennis Larson

"Mary Did You Know?" by Corbin Maaland

*Lighting of the Candles

Ushers will come to each row to share the light of Christ. Tip your unlit candle to receive the flame from the lit candle, then hold it upright as you help light your neighbor's candle.

*Song — "Silent Night"

*Blessing

*Closing Song — "Go Tell it on the Mountain"

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Please stand if you are able.*

Thank you to all who purchased a poinsettia to decorate our worship space for Christmas. Poinsettias may be taken home tonight after the service.

In memory of our parents by Kent & Carol Heazlett.

In memory of Debra Susie/Lattner by David Susie.

In honor of everyone that is helping to rebuild Faith—financially or labor, by Becky Fear-Hatting.

In memory of Patrick McFarlane by Kevin Swancutt and Pat Swancutt.

In memory of Jim Spieker by Joyce Spieker.

3 poinsettias, by Whitney Gray.

