



Emmanuel United Church of Christ

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

We Welcome You on this

Christmas Eve

Service of the Word – December 24, 2021

7:00 PM

The Gathering

Ringing of the Church Tower Bell

Christmas Eve Prelude

Call to Worship

Sung Response

Love comes to us at Christmas
 Love comes to heal our souls
 Love brings an invitation
 That our hearts might be made whole.
 As we gather at the stable
 in the darkness, glad and grateful
 for the sacred in our midst,
 for wonder and delight,
 Christ is born in us this night.

Insert

Lighting the Candle of the “Newborn Jesus”

*The Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

(As we rise in body or spirit for our opening hymn, we invite you to pass a “wave” of peace to the people around you!)

*Opening Carol

“Angels, From the Realms of Glory”

#104(RED)

A Service of Lessons and Carols

The Prophecy
Carol

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

#154(NCH)

The Angel’s Message
Carol

Luke 1:26-38

“Angels we Have Heard on High”

#105(RED)

The Birth of Jesus
Carol

Luke 2:1-7

“Away in a Manger”

Solo

The Shephard’s Journey
Carol

Luke 2:8-20

“Joy to the World”

#120(RED)

Jesus Receives His Name
Carol

Luke 2:21-35

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

#112(RED)

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

*Offertory Response

“Gloria Refrain”

#105 (RED)

Holy Communion

Invitation to Communion

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

Leader: Now let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: How good it is to give thanks and praise!

Communion Prayer

*Sanctus

To the tune of “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

#144(NCH)

Holy, holy, holy Lord

God of power and might adored,

with the glory of your light.

Loud hosannas now we sing!

In the highest may they ring!

Blessed is the coming One, Christ, Emmanuel, your Son.

Glory in the highest! Holy God, your name be blessed!

Christmas Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Christmas Prayer and Lord's Prayer "Make of My Heart a Stable"

(The refrain is played through once, then the people sing. Please join in the response when indicated by the pastor praying.)

Choral Response

#Insert

**Make of my heart/life/church a stable,
A house for the holy,
A warm and sturdy place
For hope to live and grow.**

Christmas Eve Candle-Lighting Service

Gospel Procession (*please rise for this portion of the service*)

***Carol**

"What Child is This?"

#148(NCH)

Verse 1 and 2 are sung before the Gospel reading.

Verse 3 is sung after the reading

***The Gospel**

*Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the first chapter.

***All: Praise to you, O Christ**

*Leader: John 1: 1-14

*Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

***All: Thanks be to God!**

***Carol**

What Child is This? Verse 3

(Following the singing of the hymn, please be seated)

Leader: We come to a special portion of tonight's service. As Christ comes bringing the light of God's love, we light our individual candles to signify our individual and collective commitment to live as Christ's faithful in the world. The light will be brought to the end of each row, tip your candle into the flame so that it may take hold. Pass the light along your row until every candle is lit. As the candles are lit we will join in singing and stand on the last verse.

***Carol**

"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

#101(RED)

*Leader: One candle is but a flicker, but together, we create a bright flame of Christ's light in the world. Consider the beauty of our lights shining together. Jesus is the light of the world! Jesus is the hope of all our tomorrows! May we be witnesses of the light Christ brings. As you gently extinguish your candle, carry the light of Jesus' love with you.

*Benediction

***Carol**

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

#129(NCH)

***Postlude**

*Indicates that all who are able. Please stand. **Bold** print indicates unison reading.