

CHRISTMAS EVE

A Service of Word & Table

+

Prelude *Angels We Have Heard on High* Joshua Parman
Amy Marsh, cello

Call to Worship

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Leader: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

People: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

People: And in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Opening Hymn No. 234 (Stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 6)

O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELES

Lighting of the Christ Candle (Unison)

The Advent Wreath is lit in full, including the Christ Candle, to which the Congregation replies:

We light the Christ candle to symbolize God's promise fulfilled. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all on whom his favor rests.

Congregational Response (Unison)

O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

Gracious God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, in the hearing of your Word, He may save us from our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

Gospel Lesson Luke 2:1-14

Homily Rev. Patrick Murphy

Offering *He Is Born* Brian Dean
Amy Marsh, cello

Holy Communion, UMH No. 12

Communion *Divinum Mysterium* Raymond Haan
Amy Marsh, cello

Closing Hymn No. 240 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDESSOHN

Benediction

Leader: Your savior is born today! He is Christ the Lord.

People: Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace to all.

Leader: Go, share the good news of the incarnate God; in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude *Angels We Have Heard on High* Dale Wood

+

2019 Christmas Offering

An offering will be taken during the service today, the proceeds of which will be divided between missions and the church budget.

Hymn 4, "On the Nativity"
Charles Wesley
1745

Glory be to God on high,
and peace on earth descend;
God comes down: he bows the sky:
And shows himself our friend!
God th' invisible *appears*,
God the blest, the great I AM
Sojourns in this vale of tears,
And Jesus is his name.

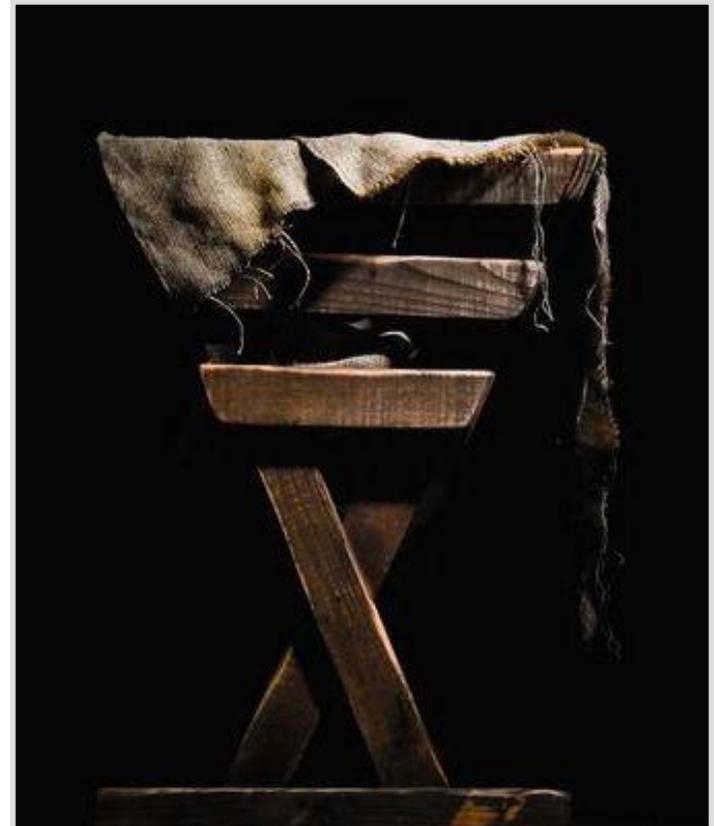
Him the angels all adored
Their Maker and their King:
Tidings of their humbled Lord
They now to mortals bring:
Emptied of his majesty,
Of his dazzling glories shorn,
Being's source *begins* to be,
And God himself is BORN!

See th' eternal Son of God
A mortal Son of man,
Dwelling in an earthly clod
Whom heaven cannot contain!
Stand amazed ye heavens at this!
See the Lord of earth and skies!
Humbled to the dust he is,
And in a manger lies!

We the sons of men rejoice,
The Prince of Peace proclaim,
With heaven's host lift up our voice,
And shout Immanuel's name;
Knees and hearts to him we bow;
Of our flesh, and of our bone
Jesus is our brother now,
And God is all our own!

Front Street

United Methodist Church



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2019

12:00 p.m.