

Pastoral Prayer

A Message for Christmas

Rev. Dric Williford

Service of Holy Communion

UMH p. 12

*Service of Lights

(As we begin to sing "Silent Night," Dric will use the Christ Candle to light the candles of the ushers who will, in turn, light a candle at the end of each pew. This is the light of Christ in our world, and in you! As your candle is lit, share that light with your neighbor, so spreading the light and love of Christ throughout our congregation. Although there is, at times, much darkness in the world, if we let the light of Christ shine within us and through us, no amount of darkness can overcome that light.)

*Closing Hymn

Silent Night

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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.

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!

*Benediction

Postlude

Joy to the World!

Leslye Ames

*Stand as you are able.

Lay Reader: Bob Reed

First United Methodist Church • 1 Jordan Avenue, Tallassee • (334)283-2195 • www.fumctallassee.com

Pastor: Rev. Dric Williford

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Director of Youth Ministries: Cory Eckstein

Director of Children's Ministries: Hillary Eckstein

Chancel Choir Director: Jerry Cunningham

Office Manager: Kristina Pendergrass

Nursery Coordinator: Laura Mullins

Sexton: Jordan Cunningham



Christmas Eve

Candlelight Communion Service

December 24, 2016



Prelude

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Leslye Ames

*Opening Hymn

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

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Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Words of Welcome

Prayer, in unison

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate, and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift, and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Light One Candle

Jerry Cunningham

Advent Scripture Reading

Bob & Pat Reed

Light One Candle

Jerry Cunningham

Congregational Response:

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Words and Music by
NATALIE SLEETH
Arranged by
HEATHER SORENSON (ASCAP)

CONGREGATION

Light one can-dle for love, one bright can-dle for
love. He brings love to ev - 'ry heart. He
comes. He comes. Light one can - dle for
love, one bright can - dle for love.
He brings love to ev - 'ry heart. He comes. He comes.

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Special Music

O Holy Night

Jerry and Jordan
Cunningham

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

Congregational Singing

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

What Child is This

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

*Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Silent Prayer