

Merry Christmas

*Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness flees
as the light grows in power and beauty.*

Prelude Stan Haemmelmann

Come, All Ye Shepherds (Czech melody) Alfred V. Fedak, 2017

Away in a Manger and Cradle Song Stephen Weber, 1999

Little Jesus, Sweetly Sleep (Tune: *Rocking*) Franklin Ritter, 2001

Intermezzo on "Carol of the Bells"
(*Shchedryk*) Mykola Leontovych, 1904/John S. Dixon, 2016

Silent Night Alice Jordan, 2007

Chorale Prelude on "Joy to the World" John S. Dixon, 2016

Greeting Rick, Jamie, Frost and Bridger Wallace

* **Carol** "O Come All Ye Faithful" (Vs. 1 & 6) UMH #234

Passing of the Peace of Christ / Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle Lori Collins, Sonia & Gabby Schumacher

"Light the Advent Candle" TFWS #2090

Light the Advent candles, now: Sing of donkey, sheep and cow;
birthday candles for the King, let the alleluias ring.

Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

* **Call to Worship**

Christ is here, in this place, and in your place,
on this night of nights.

Christ is here indeed.

Christ's love has called us together.

Christ's love has bathed us in holy light.

Let's sing with the angels and celebrate with joy.

For Christmas arrives this night.

* **Carol** "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" (Vs. 1 & 3)UMH #240

Opening Prayer

Light of the world, shine upon us this night. Shine in our lives, that we may shine with your love. Shine in our world, that your light may overcome all darkness and fear. Shine through our worship, that our souls may be strengthened with the power of your light and love. In the name of love, we pray. Amen.

Special Music I Wonder as I Wander (Appalachian Carol)

arr. by John Jacob Niles, 1934 Soloist: Patrick Newell

Children's Sermon "Away in a Manger" (Vs. 1 & 3)UMH # 217

The Prophecy of the Messiah

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7 Jessica Splichal

John 1:1-5 Hannah Vesper

Carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Vs. 1 & 4) UMH #230

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Luke 1:26-33 Dawson lasillo

Carol "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" (Vs. 1 & 4) UMH #218

Jesus Is Born

Luke 2:1-7 Teresa & William Thomas

Carol "What Child Is This" (Vs. 1 & 2) UMH #219

Jesus' Birth is Announced

Luke 2:8-14 Jackson Howard

Carol "The First Noel" (Vs. 1 & 2) UMH #245

Visitor from the East

Matthew 2:1-6 Brandon, Tahlia, Lacey & Grayson Karpen

Carol "The First Noel" (Vs. 3 & 5) UMH #245

The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus

Luke 2:15-20 Jamisyn Howard

Carol "Joy to the World" (Vs. 1, 2 & 4) UMH #246

Special Music What Songs Were Sung
John Jacob Niles, 1965 Soloist: Lauren Newell

Meditation "Hope Has Arrived!"
Pastors Joseph Schumacher & Craig Collins

We Offer Our Gifts and Ourselves

Ascribe to the Lord the glory that is due; bring an offering, and come into God's house. Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before God, all the earth (Ps. 96:8–9).

Offertory O Sleep, Dear Holy Baby (*A La Ru*)
Spanish Carol/Carson P. Cooman, 2006

Doxology UMH # 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Holy Communion UMH #13

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

The Candle Lighting

Light the candle provided in your Christmas Eve gift bag, remembering that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

Carol "Silent Night" (Vs. 1–4) UMH #239

Benediction

May God bless each of you with the joy of our Savior's birth. Go into the night, glorifying and praising God for all you have seen and heard. May Christ be your light, this night and forevermore.

Postlude I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In
(15 Century English Carol) Sharon Elery Rogers, 1962



Christmas Eve



**United
Methodist
Churches**

Scottsbluff
Mitchell
Morrill
Henry/Lyman