

# Christmas Eve December 24, 2025

Greeting  
Announcements & Prayer  
Prelude: Christopher A. McCroskey  
*(Prayerfully prepare your hearts & minds for worship.)*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Christ is born; give him glory!  
**Christ has come down from heaven; receive him!**  
**Christ is now on earth; exalt him!**  
O you earth, sing to the Lord!  
**O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified!**

\*Call to Worship  
In the stillness before dawn, the stars witness a birth.  
**The silence is broken by a joyful cry that echoes across the ages,**  
A sound that reaches every dark corner of the earth,  
**A cry that rests in the depth of our hearts.**  
Glory to God!  
**Our Savior is born!**  
Glory to God!  
**And peace on earth to all of good will.**

\*Hymn "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" 251

\*Opening Prayer (from UMC BOW #278)  
**Send, O God, into the darkness of this troubled world, the light of your Son. Let the star of hope touch the minds of all people with the bright beams of mercy and truth; and so direct our steps that we may ever walk in the way revealed to us, as the shepherds of Bethlehem walked with joy to the manger where he dwelled, who now reigns in our hearts, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Psalter Psalm 96 815-816

\*Canticle of God's Glory 83

"Let the Children Come!" Patsy Boggs

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Anthem "The Earliest Christmas Morn" Choir

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7 Pages 607-608 (O.T.)  
\*Gospel Lesson Luke 2:1-20 Page 58 (N.T.)

Christmas Eve Homily *The Word Became Flesh* Rev. Darlene L. Kelley

\*Hymn "In the Bleak Midwinter" (vs. 1-3) 221

Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings  
Offertory Christopher A. McCroskey  
\*Doxology 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.**

Prayer of Confession  
**Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**You are the way of peace. Come into the brokenness of our lives and our land with your healing love. Help us to be willing to bow before you in true repentance, and to bow to one another in real forgiveness. By the fire of your Holy Spirit, melt our hard hearts and consume the pride and prejudice which separate us. Fill us, O Lord, with your perfect love, which casts out our fear, and bind us together in that unity which you share with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Silent Prayer and Words of Assurance

Celebration of Holy Communion for Christmas Eve

*(Come down the center aisle to receive the meal and return via the side aisle picking up a candle as you return to your seat.)*

Lighting of the Christmas Candles

\*Closing Hymn "Silent Night" (vs. 1-3) On Back

*(During the singing of the hymn the ushers will light his/her candle from the Christ Candle and light the candle of the person at the end of each pew who will then pass the light down the pew. The person who is lighting their candle should tip their candle to the light to receive the light while the lit candle remains upright.)*

\*Benediction  
\*Benediction Response

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## Silent Night

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.

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**Dying Christ destroyed our death.  
Rising Christ restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

**Immanuel,  
God is with us.  
Praise God!  
Amen**

**Celebration of the Great Thanksgiving for  
Christmas Eve**



The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
The Lord is here.  
**Immanuel, God is with us!**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

You sent a star to herald the birth of our Savior, and all the earth rejoiced with the shepherds as they watched over their flocks and awaited the birth of Love.

Through a babe in a manger you fulfilled the promise you made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. He came to execute justice and righteousness and to do your will, the Prince of Peace, the Light of the World.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected.

As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

As your Word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
"This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

We remember, therefore, his passion and proclaim his offering of his body upon the cross once for all. We give thanks for his resurrection from the dead and shout for joy at his ascension to the seat of power.

We watch and wait for the day when he will come in a cloud with power and great glory to gather the wheat into his granary and share with us the promised feast.

Send now, we pray, the gift of your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine.

Sanctify us by that same Spirit that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and have pure hearts in holiness before you at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise to our Savior, the Christ Child, who was born in a manger, yet saved the world.