

Christmas Eve Celebration – Order of Worship

Thursday, December 24, 2020 – 3:00 pm

.....

Prelude

Jim Johnson

Greetings

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

We Light the Christ Candle

A Child in the House of the Lord

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, those who lived in a land of deep darkness, the light is shone on them. A child is born for us, and He is named Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace and Everlasting Father.

Today we light the candle of **CHRIST**.

Christ is Light, Christ is Love. Christ is Hope. Christ is Peace and Joy. Christ is the everlasting Life. Amen.

Opening Hymn: *Joy to the World* (UMH 246)

Responsive Call to Worship

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

Leader: Behold: I bring good news for all people. A Savior, Christ the Lord.

Let us dance with delight in the Lord and let our hearts be filled with rejoicing.

People: **For eternal salvation has appeared on earth.**

Leader: Unto us a child is born; give him glory

People: **Alleluia! Christ has come down from heaven-- receive him!**

Unison: **O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified. Amen.**

Bidding Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Pastor Iunisi Tovo

Carol Medley

Hark, the Heralds Angels Sing (UMH 240) – sung twice

We Three Kings (UMH 254) – sung twice

The Story of Christ the Light for Christmas Eve

God's Covenant with Abraham

Genesis 22: 15-18

Arthur George

God's Promise of Restoration

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Pat Schoch

Carol: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (UMH 211)

A Promise of Joy and Protection

Zechariah 9:9-10

Beth Wakelee

A Promise of Empowerment

Haggai 2:6-9

Jackson Dunkle

Carol: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (UMH 196)

Unto Us a Child is Born

Isaiah 9:1-4

John Magnoli

Isaiah 9:5-7

Chip Fisher

Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (UMH 230)

The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Us

Isaiah 11:1-4a 6-9

Matt Dunkle

Isaiah 60:1-5

Chris Eberle

Carol: *Once in Royal David's City* (UHM 250)

The Good News is Here

Isaiah 40:1-5

Charlie Fisher

Isaiah 40:6-8

Iris Dunkle

Carol: *Angels We Have Heard on High* (UMH 238)

Mary is Blessed

Luke 1:26-38

Carol Wegner

Luke 1:46-47

Sophia Fisher

Luke 1:48-49

Gabriela Rodriquez

Carol: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (UMH 234)

Luke 1:50-55

Janice Magnoli

Shepherds Come to See the Baby

Luke 2:8-16

Barbara Stranzl

Carol: *The First Noel* (UMH 245)

Wise Men Follow the Star

Matthew 2:1-6

Charlotte Fisher

John Unfolds the Great Mystery of Incarnation

John 1:1-4

Kaci Wegner

John 1:14-16

Maxwell Dunkle

Christmas Offerings

Offertory Blessings

Invitation to Receive the Light of Christ

Carol: *Silent Night, Holy Night* (UMH 239)

Unison Prayer of Christmas

We thank you, O God, for the gift of Jesus Christ. By your spirit, guide us as we seek to follow him, trust in his love, allow him to save us from ourselves, and put our hope in him. As we seek to more faithfully follow your way, make us your instruments to bring your light into the world. Amen.

Blessing and Benediction

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Glorifying and praising God for all you have seen and heard. May Christ be your light, this day and forevermore.