

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



Christmas Eve  
*December 24, 2022*  
*9:30 PM*

*Welcome to Court Street United Methodist Church*



We are a people called United Methodists.  
*Open Hearts    Open Minds    Open Doors*

The mission of Court Street United Methodist Church  
is to be a welcoming, nurturing, and serving community of Christ.

*Ringing of the Bell*

Prelude “Christmas Medley” Jacques Saint-Cyr, *flautist*  
“Away in a Manger” *Jubellation Bell Choir*  
“Carol of the Bells”  
“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Reading for the Advent Wreath & Lighting of the Candles *Read by Gwen Culpepper*

*Please see the screens and participate as you are able.*

**Carol** “Angels We Have Heard on High” **UMH #238**  
*Please see the screens for lyrics.*

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray together:

*Teach us again to listen for angel voices, O God. Open our ears to hear your word over the sounds of a season misdirected. Cast your light on these words as they are read and heard, so that this ancient and mysterious story may find a place in our hearts and lives. May it shape the way we live, make choices, and set priorities. Speak now, Lord; your servants listen. Amen.*

First Lesson *Adam & Eve* Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

**Carol** “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” **UMH #184, verse 1**

Second Lesson *Abraham* Genesis 22:15-18

**Carol** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” **UMH #224, verses 2-3**

Third Lesson *Isaiah* Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

**Carol** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” **UMH #234, verses 1, 3**

Fourth Lesson *Mary & Elizabeth* Luke 1:39-56

**Carol** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” **UMH #230, verses 1, 4**

Fifth Lesson *The Birth of Jesus* Luke 2:1-7

**Carol** “The First Noel” **UMH #245, verses 1, 3**

Sixth Lesson *Angels & Shepherds* Luke 2: 8-14

**Carol** “O Holy Night”

Lyrics by Placide Cappeau, trans. John S. Dwight;  
Music by Adolphe Adam (“Cantique de Noel”)  
*Please see insert for lyrics.*

Seventh Lesson

*Shepherds*

Luke 2:15-20

Carol

“We Three Kings”

UMH #254, verses 1, 5

Eighth Lesson

*Wise Men*

Matthew 2:1-11

OFFERING Our Gifts and Ourselves

Offertory

“Do You Hear What I Hear”  
*Presented by the Chancel Choir*

Arr. Armstrong

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH #94

The SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Please remain standing as you are able)

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

We are the body of Christ.

***Christ's Spirit is with us.***

Let us lift up our hearts.

***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

It is always right and proper at all times and in every place to give our thanks,  
but this holy night of nights, we especially shout our thanks and praise, singing:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of goodness and light.***

***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!***

(Please be seated)

Holy are you and blessed is your servant Mary, blessed is the holy child of her womb. Born into poverty and exile, yet, proclaims good news to the poor,  
and offers freedom to all who are oppressed.

On the night when he was delivered over to death, he took bread,  
gave thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

When supper was over, he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,

poured out for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of the Word made Flesh among us,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith.

***Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.***

Come now, O Spirit of Christ, bless this bread and this wine.  
May they be for us your body and blood, vibrant with life, healing, renewing, making us whole. As  
bread and wine are made one with us, may we become one with you, and one in ministry to the entire  
world. As the One who comes to us this night taught us, so now we pray:

***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as  
in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and forever. Amen.***

COMMUNION: SHARING of the BREAD and the CUP

*Gluten-free communion wafers are available so that all may partake of the Holy Sacrament.*

Communion Music

“Still, Still, Still”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

***Almighty and Redeeming God, tonight you have made us one with you by lovingly sending your  
Son to take on our sins. We thank you for this Word made flesh, revealed to us in the manger and in  
the bread and wine. Grant that we may find in his birth the new birth which he brings in us, to live  
out your gospel of love in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Lighting of the Candles

Carol

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

UMH #239

Benediction

Now, Lord, let your servants go in peace, according to your word,  
for our eyes have seen your salvation.

***Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth!***

Carol

“Joy to the World”

UMH #246

Postlude

“Toccatina on ‘Angels We Have Heard on High’”

*Arr. Richard Elliott*

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