

# DO NOT BE AFRAID

## Have Love

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE

6:45 p.m. Christmas Musical Prelude

7:00 p.m. Service of Worship

**Hearing assistance devices are available for use. Please see the technician at our sound booth if this service will be helpful to you. Large print bulletins and hymnals are also available. Please speak to one of the ushers if you would like either one or both of these.**

**\*Congregation stands in body or spirit.**

PRELUDE *Infant Holy* arr. Petersen

WORDS OF WELCOME

CHRISTMAS INTROIT *Angels' Carol* Rutter

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP^**

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**All: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,  
on them the light has shined.**

One: We are that people. Christ is that light.

**All: For a child has been born for us.  
God's own Son has been given to us.**

One: O come, all ye faithful.

**All: Come, let us adore Him.**

\*HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (v. 1,3,4) 212

**\*INVOCATION^^**

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Insert

ANTHEM *Christmas Lullaby* Althouse

SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7* OT 638

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

\*HYMN *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* 201

SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 7:14* OT 636

ANTHEM *The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy* Moore

INVITATION TO OFFERING^ & OFFERTORY PRAYER^^

OFFERTORY *Von Himmel hoch* arr. Langhold

\*HYMN *Angels We Have Heard on High* 197

GOSPEL READING *Luke 2:1-20* NT 58

ANTHEM *All on a Bethlehem Night* Raney

MEDITATON *A Beloved Child* Angela Finet

CANDLIGHTING AND HYMN *Peace, Peace / Silent Night* Insert Powell

Please remain seated as the ushers begin lighting the candles for worshipers. Only the **unlit** candle should be tilted to receive the light; otherwise hot wax will spill on your clothing. Please do not hold a lit candle near the person in front of you; it is very easy to catch their hair or clothing on fire.

Raise your lit candle high as we sing the last verse. Remain seated for the benediction. Please extinguish your candle at the conclusion of the benediction. As you leave the sanctuary, place extinguished candles in the baskets at the door.

BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *Joy to the World* arr. Perguson

^Beu, B.J. *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017*. (Abingdon Press: Nashville, TN. 2016). Pg. 272. Used with permission. Adapted.

^^Bartlett, David L., Barbara Brown Taylor, and Kimberly Bracken Long. *Feasting on the Word: Advent Companion*. (Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, KY. 2014). Pgs. 99, 101. Used with permission.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

CHORAL INTRODUCTION *Kindle a Flame\**



RESPONSIVE LITANY

Because injustice and despair threaten to overwhelm us,

**we pray for hope.**

Because so many swords have not yet been beaten into ploughshares,

**we pray for peace.**

Because grief and loss weigh so heavily,

**we pray for joy.**

Because hatred is still so strong, and because people all over the world are suffering, **we pray for love.**

God has come to us as a child.

**Christ is present in our world.**

May the light and the fire from these candles burn away everything that is preventing the God of hope and peace and joy and love from being born among us.

**Do not be afraid. Even now – the light of Christ is overwhelming the world!**

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

CONGREGATIONAL REFRAIN

Congregation, please sing as directed.

\**Kindle a Flame*: Hymnal Supplement, pg. 1034

Everyone is welcome to worship with us Sundays at 10:15 a.m. in person or on YouTube. Sunday School and faith formation for children and adults begins at 9:00 a.m. We will start the *new year* exploring the *new church* as described in the book of Acts. Join us!

## CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING — Gifts for the Christ Child

Offering will be divided between local and global ministries.

### **Local: Surprise Gift to UNR Youth NYC Fund (25%)**

National Youth Conference is an every four year “mountaintop” opportunity for Sr. High COB youth. Registration is \$550 per youth, plus transportation costs to Fort Collins, CO. Our sister congregation, Un Nuevo Renacer, has more than a dozen youth interested in NYC and a challenging fundraising goal.

### **Local: Healthy Steps Diaper Bank-Lancaster County (25%)**

Healthy Steps is central PA’s only diaper bank. Diapers are not covered by safety net programs, so parents often face tough choices keeping their young one’s clean and dry when budgets are tight.

### **Global: Haiti COB Medical Mission Latrines (50%)**

The Brethren Medical Missions team, which provides medical clinics and supplies to Haitians, has launched a campaign to build latrines for the Brethren communities in order to guard health and drinking supplies. Each latrine is expected to cost \$600.

## **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.**

**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."**

## *A Sincere Thank You To*

Rev. Angela Finet for her pastoral ministry among us.

John and Gloria Hess for their musical leadership.

Angela Finet, flute; John Hess, Libby Weder, trumpets; Aaron Booz, euphonium; James Zeigler, trombone; and Bruce Smith, tuba; for providing instrumental music this evening.

Gloria Hess for her ministry of music on the organ.

Sarah Repkoe for her ministry of music on the piano.

Catherine Repkoe for singing a solo during the pre-service music.

Wendy Allshouse, Janice Booz, Larry Booz, Ginny Hart, Bob Huber, Bill Kepner, Phyllis Kepner, Kathy Long, Lois Silver, Don Wagner, and Dianna Zimmerman for providing our special music.

Nancy Hess for leading worship this evening.

McKenna & William Wolford for serving as our acolytes.

Steve, Nancy, Eric, and Alec Hess, Cindy Heisey for serving as greeters.

Our ushers Cindy Heisey, Beth Hess, Steve Hess, Holly Mele.

Joan Boshnaugle and Carol Nissly for distributing candles.

Sara and Don Wagner, Cindy Heisey, Steve Hess, for decorations.

Dell Boshnaugle, Michael Graham, and Steve Hess for lighting and sound.

Harry Light for security.