

Sunday, December 24, 2017
Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m.
Love God · Love People · Grow

The Gathering

First Lesson *John's Prologue*

Lighting of the Christ Candle*

Leader We light this Christ-candle and we know

**People God is with us, the Promised One has come,
the light of the world breaks through the shadows,
the Holy One of God brings peace, hope, love and joy. Thanks be to
God!**

Carol* Love Came Down at Christmas UMH 242

Christmas Greeting*

Leader Tonight old dreams die and new dreams come to life. The Promise is fulfilled!

People Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace.

Leader Hope gives way to joy and prayer to proclamation.

People Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace.

Leader Our candles illuminate our story. Dawn invades midnight. The Light of the World has come.

People Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace.

Leader And this light is a light for all, igniting a flame within the soul, warming us from within, radiating love, lighting our lives with the presence of God-come- alive in human flesh within us and among us now and always.

People Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace, goodwill to all.

Second Lesson *John the Baptist*
Carol O Come, All Ye Faithful UMH 234
(vs.1 and 2)

Third Lesson *Jesus is Born*
Anthem *A Quiet Invitation* by Martin and Nix

Fourth Lesson *The Shepherds*
Carol Angels We Have Heard on High UMH 238
(vs. 1 and 3)

Carol Away in a Manger UMH 217

Fifth Lesson *The Wise Men*
Carol The First Noel UMH 245
(vs. 1,3, and 5)

The Giving of Offerings
Offertory

Sermon *Rev. Matthew Meisenhelter*
Great Thanksgiving
Lord's Prayer

Communion
We invite all to share in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion. The ushers will direct you along the center aisle to the closest communion to receive the elements of Communion by intinction, dipping the bread into the cup. You may return to your seat by the side aisles. Please pick up a candle as you return to your seat.

Sixth Lesson *And then...*
Carol Go, Tell It on the Mountain UMH 251

Candle Lighting Silent Night, Holy Night UMH 239

Benediction Joy to the World UMH 246

Concluding Voluntary

Hymnal Helps: UMH (red) United Methodist Hymnal - #s below 1000
TFWS (black) The Faith We Sing - #s above 2000
Bold = Congregation / *Stand as you are able.

If you placed a poinsettia in the sanctuary for the holiday season, you may take it home with you after this evening's service.

Thank you to all who assisted in this service.

Pastor Matt's cell phone number is (703) 819-0687 and Pastor Brian's cell phone number is (757) 615-6192.



**FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

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