

*Christmas Eve*  
*Holy Communion & Candlelight*  
~ December 24, 2009 11:00 p.m. ~

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**Our mission is to change peoples' lives**  
**through a relationship with Jesus Christ.**

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**Opening Song**      *"O Come All Ye Faithful"*      #234 vs. 1, 3-4

**Call to Worship**

**L:** Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God, is born this night.

**P:** *God's word has been made flesh among us.*

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

**P:** *Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness --- on them a light has shined.*

**L:** You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation. You have increased it's joy. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

**P:** *His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

**L:** He is also called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us.

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Opening Prayer**

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem this night fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we share the divine life of your son Jesus Christ, even as he humbled himself to share our humanity. Amen.

**Carol**      *"Go Tell it On The Mountain"*      #251

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~ *The Christmas Story in Word and Song* ~

**Luke 1: 26 – 38**      **The Angel Visits Mary**

**Reflection**

**Anthem**      *"People Get Ready"*

**Luke 1: 39 - 45**

**Reflection**

**Carol**

**Mary and Elizabeth**

*"In The Bleak Midwinter"*

#221, vs. 1

**Luke 2: 1 –7**

**Reflection**

**Carol**

**The Birth in Bethlehem**

*"What Child Is This"*

#219, vs. 1

**Luke 2: 8 – 14**

**Reflection**

**Carol**

**The Angels and The Shepherds**

*"He Is Born"*

#228, vs. 1

**Luke 2: 15 – 20**

**Reflection**

**Carol**

**The Shepherds Worship**

*"The Little Drummer Boy"*

Insert

**Matthew 2: 1 – 11**

**Reflection**

**Carol**

**The Gifts of the Magi**

*"Do You Hear What I Hear?"*

Insert

**John 1: 1 – 5; 3: 16 – 18**

**Carol**

*"Joy to the World"*

#246, vs. 1-2

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**A Christmas Offering**

**Doxology**

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~ *The Celebration of the Sacrament* ~

**A Christmas Confession and Creed**

Insert

**Communion Prayer and Consecration of the Elements**

**Sharing the Bread and Cup**

**Candle Lighting**

**Carol**

*"Silent Night"*

*See back of the bulletin*

*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, loves 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!**

***Greeters:***

*Jim and Joyce Gallagher*

***Ushers:***

*Jean Rousseau & Karen Albright*

*~ A Christmas Confession and Creed ~*

**L:** I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

**P:** *I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world, in towns both large and small.*

**L:** I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

**P:** *I believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.*

**L:** I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible.

**P:** *I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for it's only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.*

**L:** I confess my ever-lasting need for God:

**P:** *The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.*

**L:** I believe in God who gives us the best of himself.

**P:** *I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God, born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the world.*