

Lacey United Methodist Church
2024 Christmas Eve Service 10PM

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

He's coming! He's coming! The Savior of the World is coming!

Let us prepare our hearts to greet him!

He comes to each one of us, healing and restoring our lives!

Praise be to God for God's mighty gift to us.

O Come, Prince of Peace, bring your light to us!

We are ready to receive you in our lives! Amen.

***Carol** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (v. 1,3) UMH 234

First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19, 22:15-18

***Carol** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* UMH 230

Second Lesson ~ Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Christmas Wreath Lighting Sherry Exel & Anni Helle

Carol *What Child is This* (v. 1,3) UMH 219

Third Lesson: Luke 1:26-35

Carol *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* (v. 1,3) UMH 240

Fourth Lesson ~ Luke 2:1-16

Message: "You are an Angel" J. Campbell

Carol *The First Noel* (v. 1,2) UMH 245

Fifth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-11

Christmas Offering Carol

Doxology UMH 95

Christmas Offering Prayer

There are so many things to be thankful for tonight, God.

Receive these tokens of our gratitude for your love

Incarnate in the babe of Bethlehem. May they become

God-with-us for all the world. May they breathe magic

back into a world that needs a sense of wonder and joy.

Amen.

Communion Hymn *Taste and See* TFWS 2267

The Invitation to Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession

It's Christmas Eve again, God. We're barely ready for it. So much to do to get ready—gifts to buy and wrap, parties to attend, trees to trim, houses to decorate. We're in a whirlwind of activity. In the midst of the busyness we sometimes miss what it is all about—you coming to earth—Emmanuel—God-with-us. Help us hear anew your promises of hope and salvation and love as we sing our familiar carols. Forgive us for forgetting the magic of this night, for focusing on ourselves and what we need to do instead of on the miracle of Jesus' birth. Rock us out of our complacency. Let us hear angel voices, see shepherds hurrying to a stable, feel the baby's soft breath on our cheeks, and ponder in our hearts what all this means for the world, for us.

(Time for Silent Confession and Reflection)

Words of Assurance

Passing of the Peace

Celebration of Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread and The Sharing of the Cup

The Prayer of Humble Access

Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners. So cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.

The Reception

Prayer of Gratitude

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sixth Lesson: John 1:1-14

Candle Lighting

The ushers will light the candle of the individual at the end of the row, please light the candle of the person next to you, as you share the light of Christ.

***Carol *Silent Night* UMH 239**

Dismissal with Blessing

***Postlude *Joy to the World* (v. 1,4) UMH 246**

Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Campbell

Music Director: Matthew Holmberg

Liturgist: Judy Mihalkovitz

Readers: Victor Clare, Lori Osborn, Rich Rosfjord

Guest Musicians:

Trumpet - Chris Cinkutis

Trumpet - Jeremy Leighty

French Horn - Heather Meelheim

Euphonium - Matthew Holmberg

Tuba - Don Van Koppen

Head Ushers: Sherry Exel & Rick Waddell

Lacey United Methodist Church

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