

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION    *The First Noel*    Forrest

MINISTER'S MESSAGE    "Baby Talk"    Bill Burch

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION    *O Holy Night*

**SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING**

(As "Silent Night" is played and the lights are dimmed, the ministers will light a candle from the Christ candle. The ministers will then light the candles of others. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright, and the unlighted candle is tipped to be lighted. Before leaving, worshipers are asked to extinguish their candles.)

HYMN                      *Silent Night*                      STILLE NACHT

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.

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE            *God Rest You Merry*            Held

\*Please stand as you are able.

**Kena King, Worship Accompanist**

**Loving Childcare Provided**

Childcare for newborns to age 5 is provided on the second floor of the Family Life Center. Pagers are available. If you wish to leave the service to take your child to the nursery, please have an usher escort you to the Family Life Center, Room F-200.

**5 o'clock Simulcast in Family Life Center**

The 5 o'clock Candlelight Service will be simulcast in the Family Life Center across West Church Street from the Sanctuary. This family-friendly service takes place in a more casual setting.

**Advent Offering**

Tonight's offering will support three vital ministries: The United Methodist Children's Home in Decatur, Murphy-Harpst Center, and Action Ministries.

**Combined Worship on December 27**

On Sunday, December 27, there will be one worship service at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. There will be no 8:30 a.m. Worship, Celebration Service or Sunday School.

**Welcome to Sam Jones**

Join us in worship on Sunday, January 3, at our traditional services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and the Celebration Service at 9:45 a.m. in the Family Life Center. Two Sunday School sessions meet at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m. For more information contact:

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*Joy to the  
World  
the  
Lord  
is  
Come!*

**Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service  
December 24, 2009**

**Sam Jones Memorial  
United Methodist Church**

PRELUDE *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* Harmon

## GREETING

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (In unison):

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy  
which will come to all the people;  
for to you is born this day in the city of David  
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

\*HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him,  
Born the King of angels,

#### *Refrain:*

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;  
(*Refrain*)

## OPENING PRAYER

### THE PROMISE: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

HYMN *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
From Heaven’s all gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
To hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,  
By prophet seen of old,  
When with the ever circling years  
Shall come the time foretold.  
When peace shall over all the earth,  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world send back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

## THE ANNOUNCEMENT: Luke 2:8-14

HYMN *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

#### *Refrain:*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th’incarnate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

#### (*Refrain*)

## THE ADORATION: Luke 2:15-20

HYMN *Away in a Manger* AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In unison):

O God, grant that this season  
the child of Bethlehem may be born  
not only in our memories, but anew in our hearts.  
May the star that first pointed the way  
be the light that will lead us out of darkness. Amen.

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Where Shepherds Lately Knelt* Courtney

HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray:  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

## THE INCARNATION: John 1:1-5, 14

\*HYMN *Joy to the World* ANTIOCH

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## SILENT PRAYERS

## PASTORAL PRAYER