

# Service for the Lord's Day

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2014

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*Almighty Sovereign, this is the night your heart bursts open with Joy!  
This is the night of the Holy, Blessed Child. All thanks to You, this night. Amen.*

## Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Kathy Porter

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Fonta Conway and Cody Conway

(All) *Loving God, come and shine your light in the world! Shine with your love, your joy and your peace in every corner of our world. Shine with your grace in every corner of our hearts. Amen.*

\*INTROIT #119

*"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

Wesley, 1739

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the season of holy waiting.

*On this night we hear the angel say, "Do not be afraid."*

On this night we sing with the angels, "Glory to God in the highest!"

*On this night the light of God fills the heavens and illumines the earth.*

Come let us walk in the light of God! All praise to God the Father, for the Holy Child is born!

*Glory in the heavens! Glory to God! It is true. The Son of God – the Child – is born! Hallelujah! Let us worship God!*

\*HYMN# 133

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

Wade, 1743

CALL TO CONFESSION

We begin with such great hopes, such great dreams. We are going to be better, to treat others more fairly, to love more deeply. But we come to the manger once again, knowing our failings, and aware of our brokenness. Let us confess to the One who comes, that our lives might be made new. We will pray first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Wondrous God, we gather like the shepherds, unclean, unworthy, and awed by your presence. You understand the disquiet of our hearts and know how we fluster and flounder as we seek you. Still you come to us. With grace and truth you come – to break the yoke that burdens us, to bestow peace upon us, to bring light to our darkness, and to fill the earth with great joy. O Emmanuel, we welcome and adore you. Amen.*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*"Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us."*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We will be called God's Beloved, the Redeemed of the Lord. My friends, God's love is always available, always true. I declare to you, in the Name of Christ Child we are forgiven.

*This night is full of miracles, for God has come to us, just as promised! Amen.*

\*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

#579

ECHOES OF CHRISTMAS

Cody Conway, John B. Hillin, and Jan Pennal

## Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 96: 1-13

Bibles, p.520 / LG. p.677

The Word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

HYMN #145

*" What Child Is This "*

Dix, 1871

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 1-20

Bibles, p.54 / LG. p.71

The Word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

SERMON

*"It's Raining Joy!"*

Rev. Candice L. Klein

## Responding

HYMN #132

*" Good Christian Friends, Rejoice "*

Neale, 1853

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PASSING OF THE PEACE and LIGHTING OF CANDLES

*Sending*

\*HYMN #122

*“Silent Night”*

Mohr, 1816

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE #134

*“Joy to the World” (v. 1 & 4)*

Watts, 1719

POSTLUDE

Selected

(\*) Those who are able may stand.

*Bold italic letters* indicate congregational responses.

**This week’s prayers and concerns:** Tolly, Jane, Diane & Mike Dill, Kelly Weaver’s sister, Neil Pennal, Kim Pennal, Debbie Murphy, Jack Clark, Billie Manck, Joyce Huggins, all those traveling for the holiday

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sunday Mornings  
12/24-26  
12/28

8:30 a.m.      Choir Practice  
Office Closed for Christmas  
11:00 a.m.      Worship – Jimmy Chapman preaching

Pastor: Rev. Candice L. Klein 903-392-8443 [fpchendersonrev@aol.com](mailto:fpchendersonrev@aol.com)

Church Secretary: Martha Hicks

Organist & Choir Director: Mary Tidwell      Pianist: Sally Hosea

Custodian: Bob Schauwecker      Nursery Attendant: Martha Baughman