

Ascription of Praise

Glory to God in the highest and peace to God’s people on earth! **Amen.**

— *Response* —

More Christmas Carols

— *Sending* —

Blessing and Charge

The Light of light
illuminates our lives
like the dawn’s first rays.
The light shines and will not be overcome.
In the name of God, creation’s spark;
Christ, the bright morning star;
and the Spirit of fire, **Amen.**
Clothe yourselves with love.

Let the peace of Christ
rule in your hearts.
And be thankful. . . .
Do everything in the name
of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God
through him. **Amen.**

Postlude

Angels From the Realms of Glory

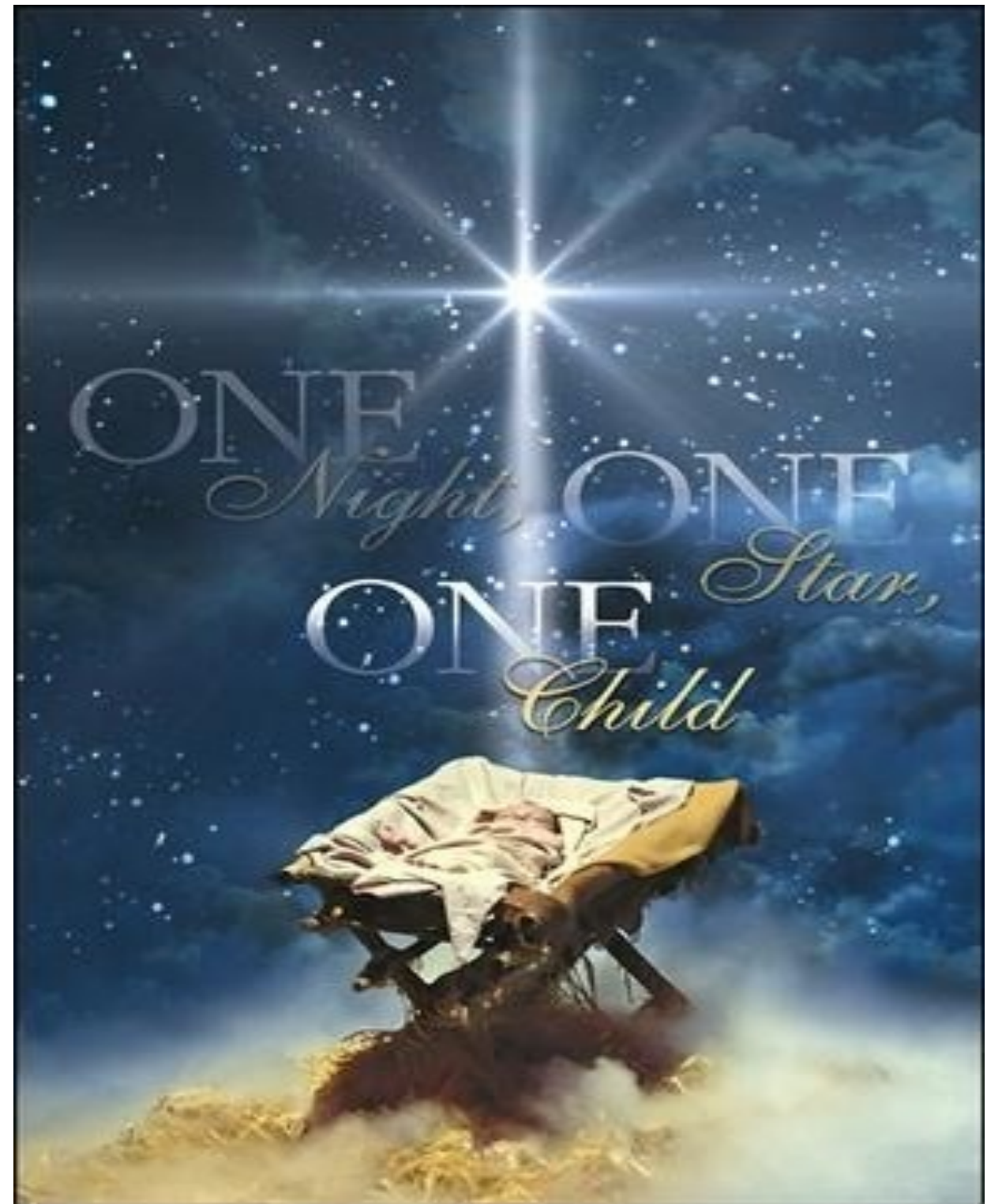
Joshua Allen



Rev. Michele R. Goff.....Pastor
Joshua Allen.....Music Director
Debbi Ricci.....Admin Assist.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



(* Please rise in body or in spirit.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

— *Gathering* —

December 26, 2021
First Sunday of Christmas
“Christmas Carol” Sunday

Prelude
Welcome

Voluntary on “In Dulci Jubilo”

Joshua Allen

Opening Sentences

Let us praise the name of the Lord!
God commanded and we were created.
Leaders and followers,
old and young,
all of God’s beloved children,
all people everywhere as with the angels,
let us come and praise the exalted name of the Lord.
Let us worship God.

Liturgist: John Hillin

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
you wonderfully created,
and yet more wonderfully restored,
the dignity of human nature.
In your mercy,
let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ
who came to share our humanity,
and who now lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Christmas Carols by Request

Confession

In faith and in hope,
we trust that God is merciful and just
and receives our prayers with grace.
In humility and with meekness,
let us confess our sin together.

*Holy God,
though we are in awe of the dawn
of your light in Jesus Christ,
we remain self-centered and
cling to the sin of the world.
We celebrate the birth of our savior,
yet we struggle in our commitment to follow him.
We are called to pursue justice,
love kindness, and walk humbly with you;
yet we are content to seek our own comfort
and conveniently ignore the cries of those in need.
By the light of the Christ child,
lead us on a path of goodness and righteousness,
as we seek to love all of your bountiful creation.*

Declaration of Forgiveness

We are God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved.
The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. *Thanks be to God.*

Christmas Carols by Request

— *Word* —

Prayer for Illumination

O God,
through your mighty acts
we receive grace upon grace.
From your fullness,
feed us with your life-giving Word,
that our lives,
like bread,
may feed a hungry world. **Amen.**

Scripture

Luke 2:41-52

Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us.
Thanks be to God.

Storytime:

The Tale of Three Trees

A Traditional Folktale, retold by Angela Elwell Hunt, with Illustrations by Tom Jonke