

Christmas Eve



*December 24, 2016
12:15 p.m.*



www.fumcaustin.org

GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

Asterisks () indicate an invitation to stand as you are able.*

OPENING MUSIC

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Do not be afraid; for see—

I am bringing you good news of great joy.

**To us is born this day in the city of David
a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.**

This will be a sign for you:

you will find a child wrapped in cloth

and lying in a manger.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace!**

* OPENING CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; O sing, all ye
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, Je - sus, to
come ye, to Beth - le - hem. Come and be - hold him, born the King of
cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the
thee be all glo - ry given. Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap -
Refrain
an - gels; O come, let us a - dore him, O come let us a -
high - est;
pear - ing:
dore him, O come let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Words: John Francis Wade; translation by Frederick Oakeley and others

Music: ADESTE FIDELES; present form of melody attributed to John Francis Wade; harmonization The English Hymnal, 1906

* LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!

We light this candle because Jesus, the light of the world,
was born on this day,
and he brightens all things.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns.

O come, let us adore Him!

* OPENING PRAYER

O God of love,

**from a lowly manger your glory shines
into the darkness of our world and our lives.**

Open our eyes to the light of Christ.

Bring us into the wonder of your presence today.

**Speak to us, that we may hear the good news
of your salvation and love for all. Amen.**

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

LUKE 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

All sing:

**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.**

LUKE 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see— I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

All sing:

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

LUKE 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SERMON

Christmas In Chaos

Taylor Fuerst

FEASTING AT GOD’S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

You are invited to meet the Christ Child in the Holy Feast and there to have your deepest hunger satisfied. Everyone, without exception, is invited to come to the Lord’s Table. You don’t have to be a member of this church to come, but no one should feel pressured.

PRAYER

Then all prayerfully sing:



O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and
en - ter in, be born in us to - day. We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the
great glad ti - dings tell; O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks

Music: ST. LOUIS - Lewis H. Redner

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

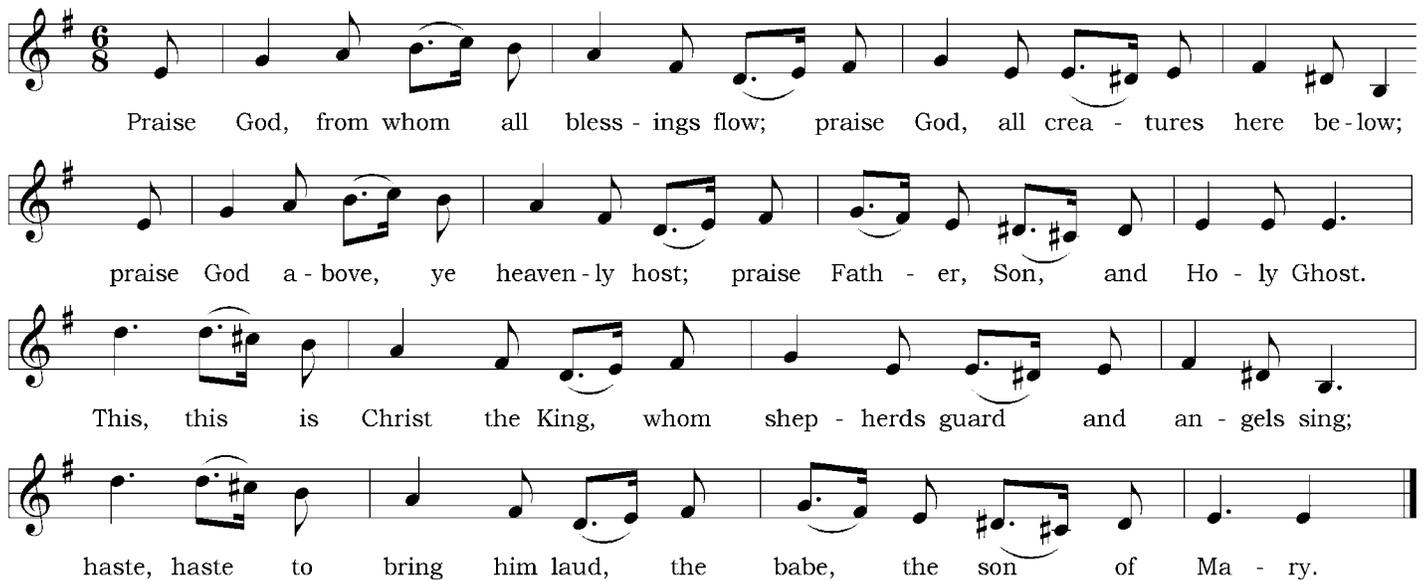
To our guests: Your presence today is itself a gift to God and to this church. Please do not feel obligated to make an offering. We believe that all we have and all we are is a gift from God, and so we give joyfully to participate in God's good work in the world. If you would like to support the ongoing ministry of First United Methodist Church, simply place your offering in the plate as it is passed. If you would like to help us purchase a home for one of our neighbors who is homeless through the gift of an RV to Community First! Village, be sure to use the "Christmas Offering" envelope located in your pew or write "Christmas Offering" in the memo.

OFFERTORY

The Cherry Tree Carol

Traditional

* PRESENTATION SONG Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures here be - low;
praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise Fath - er, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: Thomas Ken and William C. Dix, alt.

Music: GREENSLEEVES - 16th cent. English melody

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks for the gift of the Christ Child and the mystery of the Incarnation.

And so, we bow in holy splendor before the wonder of your incarnation
and join with the heavenly host in their unending hymn,
praising and glorifying you, singing:

Intro (first time only) *All*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of hosts, all praise be given!
Bles-sed is the one who came, bring-ing love and light di - vine.

All your glo - ry fills the earth; all your pow - er fills the heavens. Glo - - - - -
Bles-sed is the king who comes in the bread and in the wine.

- - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o! Glo - - - - -

- ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Words: Unknown origin, revised by Daniel Benedict and Dean McIntyre
 Music: GLORIA - French carol melody
 2004 The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, Center for Worship Resourcing (www.uncworship.org)
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The congregation may be seated. The pastor gives thanks for the Lord's Supper, invokes the Holy Spirit upon this meal, prays for others, and concludes:

All this we pray in Christ's name,
 through whom, with whom, in whom,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God,
 now and forever.

Amen.

All sing:

Intro *All*

Glo - - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Glo - - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

We will commune by "intinction," i.e., the minister will place the bread in your open hand, saying, "The body of Christ given for you," to which you respond, "Amen." You will then pass on to the server with the cup, dip the bread lightly in the cup, and eat.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Silent Night, Holy Night

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light;
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won - drous star, lend thy light;

round yon vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia!
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 with the an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

Words: Joseph Mohr, alt. stanzas 1, 2, 3, translated by John F. Young; stanza 4 translated unknown
 Music: STILLE NACHT - Franz Gruber

240
230
219

**Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
O Little Town of Bethlehem
What Child Is This**

Stanzas 2 and 3

GOING FORTH

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CLOSING CAROL 246**

Joy to the World

