

**Trinity United Church
Christmas Eve Communion Service,
December 24, 2019, 10:30 pm**

Isaiah 52:7-10

Introit “The Little Road to Bethlehem” Peter

Call to Worship

Joy comes to the world this night!

God sets aside glory

to become as hopeful and helpless as we.

God comes to the world!

In Jesus who embraces the poor as family,

who brings justice for those who are oppressed.

Peace comes to the world!

In the Spirit who reconciles the divided,

who builds bridges and tears down walls.

Carol VU 64 O Little Town of Bethlehem

John 1:1-14

Evening Prayer

Here, the faithful come that we may adore you.

Here, we come to find you and your family.

Here, we look with wide-eyed wonder.

Here, we listen for comforting words.

Here, we join with those who watch.

Here, we join the animals gazing at a new life.

Here, we welcome all who have burdens in this season.

Here, we sing our carols of joy and grace.

Here, we gather on this holy night, even as we pray as we are taught:

The Lord’s Prayer

Carol VU 69 Away in a Manger

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer for Forgiveness

We sing of the one in a manger and consider the cries of little ones who are forgotten. We imagine the holy family like us and remember that they are the relatives of the poor.

Come to us to give us new life and hope. May we join the angels in singing songs of joy, as we bring healing to the broken. May we see each person as precious in Your eyes, as the One whose lowly birth we celebrate this night.

Assurance of Pardon

Here in the silence of these moments, in the light of candles as well as grace, in the warmth of hope as well as those around us, we are offered good news. This is the night God came to us, to remind us that we are never alone, we are loved and welcomed and affirmed by our God.

Let us adore the one whose love came; whose grace and justice walked among us; whose peace and hope are the gifts. Amen.

Offering and Offertory - "Serenade to the Holy Family" (Berloiz)

Prayer of Dedication

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

May the God of silent nights be with you.

May the God of holy nights be with you.

Come, let us adore our God as we lift our hearts.

We pray that God will fill them with joy and wonder.

Let us echo the songs we have heard from angels on high.

We will sing glad songs of joy and compassion.

...

As we join in the joy that has come to the world,
as we look for your light in the shadows of this night,
we sing our praises to you:

We join the angelic chorus

and all creation in praising you.

Glory in the highest!

Blessed is the One born this night.

Glory in the highest!

...

As we celebrate his birth on this night,

as we seek to follow him every day,
we proclaim that mystery known as faith:

Born, Jesus knew the hunger of babies.
Living, Jesus knew the hurt of rejection.
Dying, Jesus knew the moment of separation from life.
Raised, Jesus knew God's love.
Returning, Jesus will journey with us into new life.

The Sharing of the Light

Arise, shine; for your Light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. And nations shall come to your Light.

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the World; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

"You are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your father who is in heaven."

Carol of the Lights VU 67 Silent Night

*The presider will light a candle from the Christ candle, and light the second presider's candle. They will then will give the light to the first person in each pew, who passes it on. **The lighted candle is never tilted, but held upright when giving light to another.***

Sending

Let us go to share God's joy with all the world.

We will bring wonder and grace to those around us.

Let us go to be the hope of Jesus for others.

We will seek justice where there is none.

Let us go to offer the Spirit's peace.

We will welcome all rejected by the world.

Carol - Joy to the World

The bulletin this evening is given by Bob and Norma, "in celebration of our family"