

## ***Sending***

### **Candle Lighting**

### **Hymn**

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

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!  
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Your holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord at Your birth

### **Christmas Blessing**

### **Sending Hymn**

“Joy to the World”

#267

### **Dismissal**

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.  
**Thanks be to God!**



***East Union Lutheran Church***

*Carver, Minnesota*

Gathering

Prelude		Gordon & Ann Decker
Ringin of the Bell		
Call to Worship	“O Holy Night”	Pastor Bryant & Barb
Welcome		

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

God-with-us, **we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, ☩ forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	#270
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Prayer of the Day—Let us pray together:

**Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus’ presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Word

Kid’s Sermon & Wreath Lighting	“Away in a Manger”	#277
Special Music	“A Manger So Far From Home”	Choir

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

The Christmas Gospel according to Luke 2:1-20		
Sermon	Pastor Bryant Bakkum	
Sermon Hymn	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	#289
Nicene Creed		page 104

Prayers of the People Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	Gordon, Ann & Barb
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Offering Prayer—Let us pray together:

**God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. Amen.**

Meal

The Great Thanksgiving		page 152
Holy, Holy, Holy		page 153
The Lord’s Prayer	Our Father, who art in heaven...	page 154
Communion Hymns	“O Come, All Ye Faithful”	#283
	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	#279
	“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”	#282

Prayer after Communion—Let us pray together:

**Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.**