

Christmas Eve 8:00 PM



SERVICE OF THE WORD  
GATHERING

**GREETING** —Pr. Janet Hoover

**READING OF THE NATIVITY:** *Luke 1:26-38* —Jim & Kim Marscher

**CHRISTMAS EVE INVOCATION** —Pr. Janet Hoover

Let us pray. 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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn:** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* vs. 1 & 2 #270 —Jim & Kim Marscher

**Vs. 1** Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king; peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful, all you nations rise; join the triumph of the skies; with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

**Vs. 2** Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! The herald angels sing. "Glory to the newborn king!"

**THE PRAYER** —Jim & Kim Marscher

We thank you, God, for your gift of Jesus Christ to the entire world. We thank you that Christ's coming makes hope, peace, love, and joy possible for every person in every nation. Encourage us to do our part to bring good will and peace to our families, our churches, our neighborhoods, and the world. Now let your Spirit put us in touch with you, the living God, through the words and music we hear tonight. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

**First Reading:** *Isaiah 9:2-7* —Jim & Kim Marscher

**Second Reading:** *Titus 2:11-14* —Jim & Kim Marscher

**Gospel:** *Luke 2:1-20* —Pr. Janet Hoover

**Sermon:** *Pr. Janet Hoover*

**NICENE CREED** —Jim & Kim Marscher

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

**ANTHEM:** *What Child is This* -text Wm. C. Dix- —Jim & Kim Marscher

## Prayers of Intercession

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

The shepherds sing, "Jesus Christ is born!" Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news, over the hills and everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Heaven and nature sing, "Joy to the world!" Give respite to flocks, fields, and those who tend them. Come near to us in the beauty of nighttime, the shining of the stars, and the hush of a world at rest. May our wonder at your creation rouse our care for all the earth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The angels sing, "Peace on earth!" Come quickly to still the strife of this world. Hush the noise of war and violence in places of unrest. Inspire leaders of nations to seek lasting peace and sustainable provision for all in their care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Listen to the cries of your people waiting patiently for your healing hand and comforting Spirit, especially those who suffer with chronic pain and all cancer patients, Pr. Mary Etta, Gail, comfort for Norm, Bill & Rusty, Don & Wanda, healing for Richard, Tom, Edween Ham, Claudia & Fran, Beth, Edie Marie, Suzee, Ed and family, prayers for Michael Gilleece and family, Your Neighbors clients, Theresa, and our country, that the light of Christ may shine upon them with hope. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

**Christmas Prayer of Thanksgiving** —Pr. Janet Hoover

## 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 and ever. Amen

## *Please Light Your Candle at Home*

**Lighting Hymn:** *Silent Night, Holy Night! Hymn # 281, we invite you to sing the first verse in German.*

**Vs. 1** Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schlaft, einsam wacht nur das traute, hoch heilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lокkigen Haar, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

**Vs. 1** 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, sleep in heavenly peace.

**Blessing** —Pr. Janet Hoover

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sending Song:** *Joy to the World vs. 1 #267* —Jim & Kim Marscher — Everyone sing!

**Vs. 1** Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

