

McFARLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
A CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE
DECEMBER 24, 2021 4:00 P.M.

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

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.
(Luke 2:10)

*UNISON OPENING PRAYER

**O God our Father, you have brought us again to the glad season
when we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Grant that his Spirit may be born anew in our hearts this day
and that we may joyfully welcome him to reign over us.
Open our ears that we may hear again the angelic chorus of old.
Open our lips that we, too, may sing with uplifted hearts.
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace, goodwill toward all;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*CAROL NO. 234

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL (V. 1-3, 6)

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A COMING KING
FIRST LESSON:

ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

MUSIC

THE COMING OF CHRIST

SECOND LESSON

RESPONSIVE READING NO. 199:

LUKE 1:26-35, 38

CANTICLE OF MARY

THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD

THIRD LESSON:

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

LUKE 2:1-7

MUSIC

THE ANGELS AND THE SHEPHERDS

FOURTH LESSON:

LUKE 2:8-16

MUSIC

THE WISE MEN

FIFTH LESSON:

MATTHEW 2:1-11

MUSIC

THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION

SIXTH LESSON

JOHN 1:1-14

MUSIC

MEDITATION:

“A GREAT LIGHT”

REV. WAYNE COOK

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING CHRIST’S HOLY MEAL

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING THE COMMUNION ELEMENTS

In our tradition, everyone who is present is welcome to share in the table of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. You will come forward to receive the bread and juice. If you cannot come forward, alert an usher and the elements will be brought to you.

*SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST AND LIGHTING OUR INDIVIDUAL CANDLES

*CAROL

SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

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.

Silent night, holy night, shepherd's quake, at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

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

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the savior is born!

*EXTINGUISHING OUR CANDLES AND THE BENEDICTION

May the Christ who by his Incarnation
gathered into One things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill;

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go forth in peace and joy. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**