

## ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

10 a.m.

December 25, 2022

*\* indicates "stand if you are able." UMH is the blue hymnal. TFWS is the small black book.*

### PRELUDE

INTROIT *"Joy to the World" Verses 1, 2, 4* UMH #246

### WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GREETINGS

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: The risen Christ is with us.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

\*Hymn *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel "* UMH #211

### CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

One: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

**All: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.  
Let the seas roar and the mountains quake.**

One: Everything came into being through the Word.  
What came into being was life, and the life was the light for all people.

**All: Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.**

One: The Word became flesh and blood, and  
lived among us to bring all people to the light

**All: Let heaven and earth break forth into joyous song,  
singing praise to our God.**

One: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

**All: Christ, our light, shines forth in glory.  
Christ, our life, brings grace and truth.**

One: Let us worship. Alleluia!  
And together let us pray.

**All: Incarnate One, we bow before you on this day to celebrate the coming of  
your presence among us. You are the fulfillment of God's ancient  
promises, a living testimony to God's faithfulness. We thank you for your  
life-transforming love: you are a gift of sustenance to souls who hunger  
and thirst; you are balm to the wounded and strength to the lame; you  
are the very light of God, shining for all the nations to see. With all**

**creation, we rejoice at your coming, as we worship before your  
manger/cradle. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN *"The First Noel"* UMH #245

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES *"Children's Message"*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the  
Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to  
us today. Amen.

THE HEBREW READING Isaiah 52:7-10

\*Hymn *"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"* UMH #240

PSALM READING Psalm 98

THE GOSPEL READING John 1:1-14

One: The Word of God for the people of God

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *"For Unto Us a Child is Born"* Rev. Jane Kim

### INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin  
and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sins before  
God and one another. *(From UMH page 7)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All-seeing and all-merciful God, Christmas day always seems to catch us off guard.  
Instead of moving in concert with the peace of your coming, we have exhausted  
ourselves dancing to the world's tune. Instead of making time and space for your  
presence, we have spent our energy on physical, rather than heavenly endeavors.  
Instead of grasping the awe of your coming, we have allowed sheer busy-ness to  
batter all wonder from our lives. Forgive us, we pray. In your mercy help us to  
reclaim the marvel and mystery of your birth. In your grace, help us encounter you  
once again in the great rhythms of creation, incarnation, and salvation. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

With righteousness and equity. Christ has come to bring justice and grace, love and  
compassion. Through the tender mercies of our God, and the glorious love of Christ  
Jesus, we are forgiven. **All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

THE INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (in unison)  
**Let us be generous in our giving, that others may see in us the transforming power of God. Let us be lavish in our gifts, that others may draw life from the bounty of God's blessings.**

WEEKLY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM                                      *"The Wondrous Story"*                                      Insert  
*Kim Gill, Tim Gill & Debbie Holland*

\*DOXOLOGY                      *"Angels We Have Heard on High" Refrain Only*                      UMH #238

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

**O God, in this sacred season, we offer you these treasures from our stores, along with the gift of our hearts. We place these gifts on your altar to help build the kingdom you opened to us on this day of Christ's birth. We lift our hearts to you, even as we place our lives into your care, as we follow your Son, who is the way, the truth, and the life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

**God of peace, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. Jesus the Prince of Peace and the ruler of earth's governments, we pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN    *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*    UMH #230

\*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

One:    Go now with joy and peace,  
          hearing the mountains and hills break forth in song.

**All:    We will sing with the trees of the forest and  
          shout for joy with the flowers in the fields.**

One:    Go forth with thanksgiving to the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit,  
          one God, Mother and Father of us all.

**All:    Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us share God's love and peace with one another.

POSTLUDE

**OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED**

**NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS**

**COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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December 25, 2022  
**Rev. Jane H. Kim**                      **Mrs. Rita Lieberman**  
Pastor    Minister of Music                      Secretary

