

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious and loving God, we give You thanks for the gift of Your Son, the good news of great joy for all people. Thank You for the ways Your love has been made visible among us through gifts shared with families in need, through clothing and warmth offered to the vulnerable, through words of hope written to prisoners and nursing home residents, through every act of kindness done in Your name. Receive these gifts, we pray and use them to bring joy where there is sorrow, hope where there is despair. May our giving reflect Your generous heart, and may our lives proclaim the joy of Christ, In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* UMH #240

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Pastor Sue will take the light from the Christ Candle with which to light the congregation's candles.

One: The Light of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

*HYMN *Silent Night, Holy Night* UMH #239

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

Go forth rejoicing, for unto you is born this day a Savior, Christ the Lord. Carry the joy of Christmas to all people you meet and let your lives reflect God's love. May the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Silent Night, Holy Night*
by Franz Gruber & Charles Webb

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS

Thank you to Kim Gill for being this evening's Liturgist and The Silva family for lighting the Christmas candle. Thank you also to Chrissy Fong, Jeong-Hwa Park, Kimberly Livingston, Tyler Stankiewicz, Tim Gill and our entire CUMC Choir for sharing their musical talents with us tonight. Merry Christmas!



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

5 p.m. December 24, 2025

PRELUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze
by J. S. Bach

INTROIT

Christ Is Born the Holy Child
French carol, arr. by Marion Vree

CUMC Adult Choir

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD

CHRISTMAS GREETING

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Peace was proclaimed at the first Christmas and comes to us anew this night. Let us take a moment to share that peace with one another, welcoming the presence of Christ among us and in our hearts.

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

*HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UMH #224

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beloved people of God, hear the good news of Christmas: “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all the people.” This night, we gather with shepherds and angels, with saints and seekers, to rejoice in the gift of a Savior who is born for the whole world.

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

One: Let all the earth make a joyful noise, for Christ the Lord is born!

All: Come, let us worship with joy that overflows and love that reaches beyond ourselves.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHTING & MEDITATION:

First Reader: Tonight, we gather to remember with the prophet Isaiah: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this (Isaiah 9:6-7).

All: We gather to once again bask in the glory that visited a stable and a manger, shepherds watching their flocks, and a young couple cradling the newborn Messiah.

Second Reader: We light the Christ candle as a sign of the glory that came among us in unexpected places and to unexpected people, that we may be people who seek and follow the glory of the Christ child here and now.

Light the center candle of the Advent wreath.

A VOCAL SOLO

O Holy Night
by Adolphe Adam / arr. by Carl Deis

Kimberly Livingston

A SCRIPTURE READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 98:1-4

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

AN INSTRUMENTAL DUET

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Lewis H. Redner/arr. Joel Raney
Chrissy Fong on Flute & Jeong-Hwa Park on Piano

A SCRIPTURE READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-11

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

A VOCAL DUET

A Cradle in Bethlehem
by Phil Wickham & Evan Wickham

Tyler Stankiewicz & Tim Gill

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

“Good News of Great Joy for All People”

Rev. Sue H. Yun

INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

On this holy night, God gives us the greatest gift, Jesus Christ, born for the life of the world. As we offer our gifts, we remember that Christmas joy is meant to be shared with those in need. Let us give with grateful hearts, that the joy of Christ may be made known through love and generosity.

WEEKLY OFFERING & NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Huron Carol
by Sarah Quartel

CUMC Adult Choir

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95