

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Zanesville, Ohio

December 24, 2016

CHRISTMAS EVE

(CCLI 1765953)

8:00 p.m.

WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

Ministers – The Congregation
Pastor – Mark Chow

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

PROCESSIONAL

“Once in Royal David's City”

R. Rokey

GREETING

Todd Sands

***OPENING CAROL 234**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” [vs. 1, 3, 6]
Grace Chancel Choir – Grace Handbell Choir

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Pastor Mark

CAROL 196

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Amelia Lepi

The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

CAROL 216

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” [vs. 1, 2]

LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 6-9

Coty Brown

The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all of God's creation.

CAROL 230

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” [vs. 1, 2]

LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Dan & Karen Vincent

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.

ANTHEM

“Silent Is the Night”
Grace Chancel Choir

J. Althouse

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

William Woods Family

CAROL 211

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” [vs. 1]

LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

William Woods

Family

Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

William Woods

Family

The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.

“We light the Christ candle tonight as a reminder that Jesus is the Light of the World, bringing Hope, Peace, Joy and Love to all people. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.”

RESPONSE 211

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” [refrain only]

CAROL 245

“The First Noel” [vs. 1, 2]

LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

Steve & Tammy Vincent

The wise men follow a star to find the Child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

CAROL 219

“What Child Is This” [vs. 1, 3]

LESSON

John 1:1-14

Sarah Tippie

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

MEDITATION

PEACE

Pastor Mark

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION 12-15

INVITATION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO THE CHRIST CHILD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Carol of the Huron”

arr. Hatch

Grace Handbell Choir

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

“The Lord's Prayer”

Malotte / arr. Anderson

Tom Swan – Handbells; Marcie Butterfield – Piano

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(Ushers will distribute trays with the bread and juice. When all have received each element, we will commune together.)

ANTHEM

“In the Bleak Midwinter”
Grace Chancel Choir

G. Holst

CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY

(Ushers will receive the light from the Christ Candle and disperse into the sanctuary. As they come to each aisle, they will hold their candles upright for persons to light)

their candles; never tip a lighted candle. When all candles are lit, we will sing.)

***CAROL 239** "Silent 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, shepherds 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!

EXTINGUISH CANDLES *[please leave candle holders as you exit the building]*

***SENDING FORTH**
Pastor – Christ the Savior is born.
Lay Leader – Go and spread the good news everywhere!
People – Thanks be to God.

***RECESSIONAL CAROL 246** "Joy to the World"

***POSTLUDE** "He Is Born!" M.
McDonald

If you donated a poinsettia, you are encouraged to pick it up following the service.

CONTRIBUTIONS to be credited to 2016 must be in the church office before noon, December 29. Any money received after that date will be credited to 2017.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2017 are located on a table at the rear of the sanctuary. Please pick yours up – they are in alphabetical order. If you want envelopes but have not had them in the past, or if you have had envelopes but don't find them, see Judy.

STAFF
Pastor — Mark Chow

Parish Visitor — Judy McAllister
Volunteer Lay Visitor — Todd Sands
Organist — Tony Merry
Handbell Director — Ann Lillie Briggs
Worship Leader — Joyce Cooper
Christian Education — Sarah Burris
Administrative Assistant — Judy Cranz
Custodian — Tracie Moss
Sound — Craig Hill, Bill Woods, Dan Vincent

Special thanks to all participating in this evening's service —

Hospitality Team – Rick & Cindy Lawyer – Dana & Cindi Swope – Youth Sunday School Class –

Bill & Becky Woods – Steve & Tammy Vincent

Lay Leader – Todd Sands

Organist/Choir Director – Tony Merry

Handbell Director – Ann Lillie Briggs

Pianist – Marcie Butterfield

Percussion – Stuart Williams

Readers – Coty Brown – Dan & Karen Vincent – Steve & Tammy Vincent -

Amelia Lepi – Sarah Tippie

Advent Wreath – William Woods Family

Communion Stewards – Janet Hill – Carol Friel – Bev Dunworth – Tracy Miller –

Cassie Burris – Amy Dosch – Frank Dosch – Susan Holdren – Tom Holdren –

Becky Woods – Bill Woods – Carla Waltman – Doug Waltman

Sound/Lights – Craig Hill – Dan Vincent – Bill Woods

tell Ned what wanted for lights

light aisle candles – not so early; some went out in 2013

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds 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!**