

**SENDING FORTH**

† **HYMN** "Go Tell It on the Mountain" UMH #251 (vs. 1&3)  
Mike Drew accompanying on saxophone

† **DISMISSAL**  
Pastor: Christ the Savior is born.  
Go and spread the good news everywhere!  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**RECESSIONAL** "Joy to the World" UMH #246

**POSTLUDE**  
*Ding, Dong, Merrily on High* Traditional French Carol

† *Please stand as you are able*  
***Bold print indicates congregation responds***

Thank you to all our participants tonight. We are particularly grateful for our readers, vocalists, and musicians.

*Merry Christmas, may you feel God's blessings in this season.*

<b>Youth Director:</b>	<b><i>Worship Leaders today</i></b>
<b>Music Ministry:</b>	Melissa Hurley
	Judy Bushman (Organist)
	Mary Nelmes (Handbell Choir Director)
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Jeff Cedro
<b>Nursery Supervisor:</b>	Carol Cravatta
<b>A/V Specialists:</b>	Logan Ayala and Joey Cordell



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# WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**DECEMBER 24, 2022  
CHRISTMAS EVE.**

# Welcome to Wesley United Methodist Church

December 24, 2022

## ENTRANCE

### PRELUDE

*Christmas Pastoral*  
*Little Town of Bethlehem*

by J.W. Murray & F. Gruber/arr. Robert J. Hughes  
by L.H. Redner/arr. Ellen Jane Lorenz

### †CALL TO WORSHIP:

On this night, Christ is born!

**Now the Savior has appeared!**

On this night, the heavenly chorus resounds!

**All creation rejoices!**

On this night, the church throughout the world joins their cry:

**Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!**

### †OPENING HYMN

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

UMH #221 (vs 1&4)

### LIGHT ADVENT CANDLE (insert)

## WORD AND RESPONSE

### READER 1: Luke 2: 1-3

*About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. This was the first census when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for.*

### HYMN

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

UMH #218 (vs 1&4)

### READER 2: Luke 2: 4-7

*So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David’s town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the hostel.*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Jean & Sarah Moe (7 pm)  
Charlie Truedson (11 pm)

“Manger Medley”  
“A Christmas Hallelujah”

### READER 3: Luke 2: 8-14

*There were shepherds camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God’s angel stood among them and God’s glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid. I’m here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David’s town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you’re to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger.” At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God’s praises: Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him.*

### HYMN

“What Child is This”

UMH #219 (vs 1 & 2)

### READER 4: Luke 2: 15-20

*As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherds talked it over. “Let’s get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us.” They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child. All who heard the shepherds were impressed. Mary kept all these things to herself, holding them dear, deep within herself. The shepherds returned and let loose, glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard and seen. It turned out exactly the way they’d been told!*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Rene Morris

“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”

### POEM

Melissa Hurley (7 pm)  
Nora Truedson (11 pm)

“Christmas Eve”

by Christina Rossetti

### SERMON

“God with Us”

## THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

### GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

UMH #13

### RESPONSE

### CANDLE LIGHTING

“Silent Night”