



**LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST**



**Light Has
Shined**

Tuesday, December 24, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Traditional Candlelight Service

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach
©1998 Hal Leonard Corp.

Candle Lighting

O Holy Night
Lisa Corpron, Solo

Adolph Adam
©1935 G. Schirmer

Welcome

Lighting the Advent Candles & Christ Candle

Reader One:

People of God, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim 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" (Isaiah 9:6).

Congregation:

Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell on this earth and in our hearts. "His authority shall grow continually, 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 9:7).

Reader Two:

We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God's salvation wherever we go.

† Christmas Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful (v1-3)

UMH 234

1. O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

- Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord. Hymn Lyrics

Song of Invocation

Oh Come, All You Unfaithful
Chancel Choir
Lisa Corpron, Jayson Coleman, Soloists

Bob Kauflin/Lisa Clow
Arr. Heather Sorenson
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WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

The Annunciation

Carol

What Child Is This? (v1-2)

Luke 1:26-35, 38 (NRSV)

UMH 219

- What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the Son of Mary.

- Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the Son of Mary.

Joseph's Vision

Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem (v1-2,4)

Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)

UMH 230

- O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Jesus is Born in a Manger
Anthem

The Colors of Christmas
Chancel Choir

Luke 2:1-7 (NRSV)
John Rutter
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Angels & Shepherds
Anthem

I Too Shall Walk to Bethlehem
Chancel Choir

Luke 2:8-20 (NRSV)
John Rutter
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† **The Gospel Proclamation**
† **Carol**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

John 1:1-14 (NRSV)
UMH 240

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Christmas Message

Light Has Shined

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem

Join the Angels
Chancel Choir
Jayson Coleman

Matthew West/Arr. David Angerman
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† Doxology

Tune - UMH 94

In Bethlehem a child is born, let darkness end: salute the morn.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Lift up your voice and with us sing; come, lay your gifts before the king.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

† Song of Dedication

Joy to the World

UMH 246

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.
2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse if found,
far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, and wonders of his love.

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Ritual of Candles

† Benediction & Response

Peace, Peace / Silent Night, Holy Night
Chancel Choir and Congregation

1. 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.
2. 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!
3. 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.

Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* and *The United Methodist Hymnal*

Liturgist:	Tom Huse
Organist:	Robert Wuertz
Pianist:	Rebecca Cosford
Guitar:	Mike Gray
Ushers:	George Anderson, Don Lincoln, Dan Martin, Peter McCreight
Tech Team:	AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director;
Theresa Erb, Office Manager; Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director;
Erin Wyer, NS Executive Director