

Large Print Bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary

Denmark Manor United Church of Christ

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Rev. Meredith Ann Hutchison.....	Pastor
Kelly Millar.....	Choir Director
Irina Thomas.....	Organist
Rheba Salac.....	Administrative Assistant
Wade Anderson.....	Sexton
The Congregation.....	Disciples of Christ
Christmas Eve	7:30PM.....December 24, 2014

Ringling of The Bell

Prelude-Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome

The Promise.....Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

***Ringling of the Bell**

Gathering Music (please stand)

Please join the choir in singing:

All: Here comes the light, here comes the light.

Goodbye to darkness, goodbye to night.

In the eastern sky the stars are shining bright,

Oh, glory hallelujah children, here comes the light. (repeat)

*Call to Worship in the Name of Our Three in One God

Pastor: *Rejoice in the light of life!*

People: **We rejoice that God loves us so much**

Pastor: *That God sent us a child*

People: **To teach us the nature of God's call for us,**

Pastor: *To show us how God would have us be.*

People: **Rejoice in the light of life!**

(continued next page)

Pastor: *Sing praises, people of God!*

People: **We lift our voices in thanksgiving and praise!**

***Carol: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

Irina Thomas, Organ and Dave Conner, Trumpet

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. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation.

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, glory in the highest.

Refrain

The Prayer of Confession (Please be seated)

All:

- **God of angel songs and hidden miracles, wing your way into our world, for we are in need of your presence. We have been caught up in busyness, frantic with lists too long and pocketbooks too empty. We have lost patience and misplaced hope.**
- **God of heavenly choruses and humble beginnings, wing your way into our hearts. Let us know a peace that calms unrealistic expectations. Let us be lifted up by angels' songs and see with new perspective what is truly important. Let love grow, for after all the presents are opened, what we need is an overwhelming sense of amazing grace.**
- **God of angel songs and humble miracles, wing your way into our lives and fill us with joy. In the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.**

Kyrie: # 750

**All: Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Pastor: God is light! In God there is no darkness! Arise! Shine!
Our Light awaits!*

**All: Hear the exciting news of God's love for us. If we confess
our pride and self-centeredness, God has forgiven us. If we want
to change, God has a plan for our lives. If we serve God with our
whole selves, our names will be written in heaven. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles

Doreen Cherep, Steve Cherep, Joni Mattei, Robin Brautigam,
Bill Hutchison and Trude Hayes

Solo.....“O Holy Night”-Dave Conner, Trumpet

Our Time of Sharing

Invitation to the Offering,

Offertory Solo Irina Thomas, Piano

*Offertory Response “We Are Giving in the Light of God”
(526) (Please stand)

**All: We are giving in the light of God,
We are giving in the light of God (Repeat previous 2 lines)
We are giving, marching, we are giving, Oo,
We are giving in the light of God (Repeat previous 2 lines)**

The Christmas Story in Scripture and Song

The Announcement

Luke 1:26-38

Stephanie Cherep.....Reader

Solo “The Magnificat” - Kelly Millar, Soprano

Jesus Is Born

Scripture.....Luke 2:1-7
Brad Cherep.....Reader
Anthem.....”Mary’s Son, Precious One”

The Angels Sing

Scripture.....Luke 2:8-14
Art Long.....Reader
Solo “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”-Fred Hayes, Piano

The Shepherds’ Journey

Scripture.....Luke 2:15-20
Justin Cherep.....Reader
Anthem...“As Shepherd’s Lately Knelt”

An Important Dream

Scripture.....Matthew 1:18-25
Myrt Driscoll.....Reader
Duet “I Wonder as I Wander”
Andrew Hayes, Cello and Fred Hayes, Piano

The Travels of the Magi

Scripture.....Matthew 2:1-12
Don McIlvaine.....Reader
Anthem..... “Go With the Wisemen”

The Light Shines in the Darkness

ScriptureJohn 1:1-5, 9-14
Pastor Meredith HutchisonReader

***Carol: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (Please stand)**

- 1. 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**

(continued next page)

2. **How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (Please be seated)

(Children are welcome to receive Communion at the discretion of their parents. Gluten free wafers are found in the center of the plates of bread.)

Invitation

Pastor: *This table is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ and seek to follow in Christ's way. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come to this table then, sisters and brothers, as you are. Partake and share that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of God's new age.*

The Lord's Prayer (Sung)

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen**

Litany of Remembrance and Consecration

Pastor: *God of light, in whom there is no shadow, your gifts to us are from the beginning of time.*

All: **They began with creation, when your Spirit gave form to the chaos of energy and matter, and when you brought forth light on the face of the earth.**

Pastor: *They continued with our ancient ancestors, like Noah, whom you blessed with the colorful promise of the rainbow,*

All: **And like Sarah and Abraham whom you blessed with a child whose descendants, as many as the stars of the sky, were to be a light to the nations.**

Pastor: *In the desert, you gave the gifts of manna and of living water to the weary pilgrims whom you led by a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.*

All: **At last, you sent your light into the world in the form of a tiny child, fragile and vulnerable, who grew to be the very Light of Light, full of grace and truth, revealing your glory on earth.**

Pastor: *We thank you, O God, that you have sent Jesus Christ to bring life and immortality to light.*

All: **Help us to receive your gifts with joy and humility; as we receive this bread and wine, may we open our hearts to support one another. Be born among us, that we may give Christ's love to the world, through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Pastor: *The bread, which we break, is the communion of the body of Christ.*

The cup of blessing, which we bless, is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Come for all things are ready.

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: **We give you thanks, O God, that you have come to us through Jesus Christ, both in the midst of time and history in the city of Bethlehem, and in the timeless presence of Christ's Spirit as we have received the gifts of bread and wine. Send us forth to share your love with all of the people we meet; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Sharing of the Light

(At this time the congregation will please stand and light their candles as we sing the carol)

***Carol: "Silent Night, Holy Night"**

- 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 a-far,
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.**

***Carol: "Joy to the World"** (Remain standing)

Irina Thomas, Organ and Dave Conner, Trumpet

- 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. 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, wonders, of His love.**

*Benediction

*Benediction Response: "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*The Ringing of the Bell

* Postlude

Members of the Choir

Soprano:

Robin Brautigam
Trude Hayes
Dorothy Martin
Joni Mattei
Debbi McIlvaine

Alto:

Doreen Cherep
Meredith Hutchison

Tenor:

Steve Cherep
Allen Mattei
Bill Hutchison

Bass:

Fred Hayes
Dan Walk

Our Choir Director: Kelly Millar

Our Organist: Irina Thomas and Accompanist

If you felt like you were in touch with God tonight, you can experience this every Sunday. Our Sunday worship is at 11:00AM. There will not be Sunday School on December 29, but there will be on January 5 when we have our monthly "Faith and Food" get-together at 10:00AM.

Thanks to all who contributed to the Help Fund as well as other ministries during the holidays.

A special thanks to those who give so generously to our general ministry offering and our offering tonight. We worship here tonight and throughout the year by your gifts to God, given through the general fund of the church.

If you haven't picked up your 2015 Offering Envelopes they are in your mail box. Let the office know if you need envelopes.