

Sunday December 24, 2017 - Christmas Eve Worship



UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 24, 2017 - Christmas Eve

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 AM



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

“O Come Let Us Adore Him

W e l c o m e

in Christ's name to all who are visiting.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. Please let us know you were here by filling out one of the guest cards provided by the ushers. We are blessed by having you here. May you also be blessed because you worshipped God with us.

UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
14 NORTH MAIN STREET, CHURCHVILLE, NY 14428-0123 (585) 293-1665
Email: unionucc@frontier.com Website: churchvilleucc.com

December 24, 2017 Christmas Eve Worship 11:00 PM
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Music for Quiet Reflection

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude:

Calling Each Other To Worship

Calling Each Other to Worship

One: Sing to our God a new song; Sing to our God all the earth.

All: Glory to God in the highest heaven, Peace on earth to all!

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God, Let the earth rejoice, let trees of the forest sing for joy!

All: Glory to God in the highest heaven, Peace on earth to all!

Opening Hymn: " O Come All Ye Faithful" #83 green hymnal

Calling God into Our Hearts, Minds, and Spirits (Unison)

O God of the Baby of Bethlehem, We come into your presence with praise and thanksgiving. We hear the glad tidings of the angel voices, We come to experience this good news of great joy for all the people. As the shepherds traveled to Bethlehem, We have traveled here – excited, expectant, hopeful; a bit skeptical. Let the words of sacred scripture seep into our hearts, to be treasured and pondered anew. We are here; we are ready, O God! Let the light of your love break forth! Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE LISTEN

The Lighting of the Christ Candle: The Valvano Family

Reader 1: First let us relight four candles representing the four weeks of Advent as we awaited the blessed hope of our Savior, Jesus Christ..

Reader 2: These candles symbolize gifts of Jesus Christ to us: hope, peace, joy and love. (The Candles of hope, peace, joy and love are re-lighted)

Now tonight we light the Christ Candle: the candle of Hope made real in the Son of

God come to earth at Christmas. In Christ, the grace of God has appeared bringing the Good News of salvation for all.

We Sing: "I Want to Walk As A Child of the Light"

Anthem "Is Your Heart Prepared For A King?" by Lau

A Time For the Child in us All

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:8-15

***Hymn** "While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks by Night" #86 green hymnal

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 Mark 1:1-8

Special Music: Mary Fraser and Steve Valvano

A Reflection: "Let It Be"

Anthem "On This Night" by Besig & Price

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

God's People Respond in Prayer

Sharing Celebrations & Concerns

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Response

Responding through Giving

Invitation to Giving and Receiving of Gifts

Offertory:

Hymn of Praise: "The Doxology"

*** Prayer of Dedication of Our Time, Gifts, Talents and Funds (In Unison)**

Christ comes! Our hearts are full, our joy is boundless. May this offering be a living message of peace, love, spirit, joy and hope to this church, to this community, to this nation and world. Amen.

CANDLE-LIGHTING SERVICE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Hymn: "Silent Night" #87 green hymnal

Benediction

The Sending Forth of God's People to Celebrate the Birth of Christ