



A special welcome to our guests. Your visit is a blessing to us, and we are glad you are here!

Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. If you prefer,
a nursery for infants through preschoolers is available in Room 5.

Hearing assistance (headphones, earbud, or T-coil) is available during worship.

** Please stand in your heart or posture. UMH=United Methodist Hymnal.*

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* by Larry Schackley

CHORAL OPENING *On This Still and Silent Night* by Koerts/Cook

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING *Christ Be Our Light* by Farrell/Raney

* OPENING HYMN *Angels We Have Heard on High* UMH 238

READINGS *Isaiah 9:6-7 (NRSV)*

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. 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.

Titus 2:11-14 (NRSV)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

ANTHEM *Shines the Light* by Dengler/Dengler

READING *Luke 2:1-20 (NRSV)*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am

bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

MESSAGE *Stepping Down* Rev. Timothy Dowell

* HYMN *O Come All Ye Faithful* UMH 234

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Bring A Torch, Jeannette Isabella* by Joel Raney

* DOXOLOGY *In the Bleak Midwinter* UMH 221, last verse

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Word & Table Service II* UMH page 12

Away in a Manger UMH 217

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear UMH 218

What Child is This UMH 219

O Little Town of Bethlehem UMH 230

The First Noel UMH 245

Joy to the World UMH 246

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN *Silent Night* UMH 239

* CHRISTMAS SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE *Joy to the World* by Diane Bish

Daily Scripture Readings

Mon., December 24 - **LUKE 1:26-35** *God Is With Me*

Tue., December 25 - **LUKE 2:1-7** *Christmas Perfection*

Wed., December 26 - **MATTHEW 7:1-5** *The Goldfish Bowl*

Thu., December 27 - **PSALM 20:1-9** *A Mother's Love*

Fri., December 28 - **EPHESIANS 3:14-21** *Heavenly Father*

Sat., December 29 - **COLOSSIANS 3:12-17** *Forgiving Family*

Visit www.upperroom.com for more information.

Upcoming Happenings

MON - DEC 24	4 pm - 5 pm 8 pm - 9 pm	Family Christmas Eve Worship Service Traditional Christmas Eve Worship Service
WED - DEC 26	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal - CANCELLED
THU - DEC 27	7 pm - 8 pm 7 pm - 8 pm 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Small Grp: Review/Preview - CANCELLED Zumba Class Small Grp: Judy's Covenant Group
SUN - DEC 30	9:15 am - 10:15 am 10:30 am - 11:30 am 11:30 am - 12 pm	Sunday School Worship Service Coffee Corner - <i>Dowell's</i>
MON - DEC 31	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal - CANCELLED
WED - JAN 2	7:30 pm - 9 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
THU - JAN 3	7 pm - 8 pm 7 pm - 8 pm 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Small Grp: Review/Preview with Pastor Tim Zumba Class Small Grp: Judy's Covenant Group
SUN - JAN 6	9:15 am - 10:15 am 10:30 am - 11:30 am 11:30 am - 12 pm	Sunday School Worship Service Coffee Corner

*Wishing you and
yours a blessed
Christmas Season!*

