## Christmas Eve Service December 24, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Gathering Music Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming arr. Kevin Hildebrand

String Quartet and Organ

I Saw Three Ships arr. Michael Tyree

**String Quartet** 

In the Bleak Midwinter arr. Michael Tyree

String Quartet

Gesu Bambino arr. Sharon Elery Rogers

Handbell Ensemble

Welcome

Call to Worship

We give you thanks, O God, for the light this season brings. This night, prepare us to receive the gift of your Son, help us to treasure the gift of the season in our hearts. May we anticipate with great hope, the arrival of Jesus into the world again. Amen.

The Prophet Foretells a Messiah

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

\*The Arrival of the Light

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**UMH #234** 

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;
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;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God all glory in the highest:
O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

The Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-7

Carol Away in a Manger (vs. 1 & 2)

**UMH #217** 

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

The Angels' Proclamation Luke 2:8-14

Carol Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs. 1 & 3)

UMH #240

arr. Dennis Allen

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"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

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.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

The Shepherd's Journey Luke 2:15-20

Special Music The First Noel arr. Dan Forrest

Sanctuary Choir

**Christmas Prayer** 

Anthem I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Sanctuary Choir

Sermon I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Giving Back to God

Offertory Prayer

In response to the love you have given us, God, through the birth of Jesus the Christ, we offer here what we have, what we do and even more, who we are, that our generosity might transform the world. Amen.

Offertory Carol of the Bells arr. Jason Krug
Handbell Ensemble

## **Giving to God through First Church:**

- 1. Give online at fcfumc.net or on the First UMC App.
- 2. Check or cash.
- 3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.

Carol Silent Night (vs. 1-4)

t Night (vs. 1-4) UMH #239

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.

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!

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.

Silent night, holy night. Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Recession of the Light

John 1:1-5

Carol

Joy to the World
Sanctuary Choir and Congregation

Verse 1 All: 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 nature sing.

Verse 2 Men: No more let sins and sorrows grow, no thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse in found, far as, far as the curse is found.

**Verse 3: Choir Only** 

Verse 4 All: 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.

Benediction

Postlude

Rev. Bradley Laurvick, Lead Pastor
Rev. Cynthia Paquette, Executive Pastor

David Adkins, Director of Music Ministries & Communications
Dr. Joel Bacon, Organist/Artist in Residence
Corey Putnam and Pam Raab, Liturgist, 5:00 pm
Ryan Land and Susie Land, Liturgist, 7:00 pm

