



*across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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.*

## **Pastoral Prayer**

**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.*

## **Song**

The First Noel vs 1,2

#245 UMH

## **Scripture**

*Luke 2:1-7*

*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.*

## **Anthem**

Ave Maria

Diana Dermond

## **Scripture**

*Luke 2:8-20*

*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**

*The Light of the World*

Rev. Maria Campbell

Offertory

O Holy Night (*arr. Peery*)

**Doxology** – Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**Dedication of Offering** – Generous God, as we bring our gifts in joy and thanksgiving for the gift of your son, Our Savior Jesus Christ. May the light of his presence renew in us once more the love we have for one another. In the name that is above all, we pray. Amen.

**Holy Communion**

*Communion is open to all who believe and accept Jesus Christ as their Savior. You do not need to be a member of this church, or any church to receive communion in worship today. All are welcome at God's table.*

**Closing Song & Candlelight**

Silent Night vs 1,2,3,4 (*a Capela on 4th verse*)

#239 UMH

**Blessing**

**Postlude**

*Director of Music Ministries—Jacob Eppel    Organist—Margaret Cinotto  
Director of Audio-Visual Ministries—Jake Weskamp    Pianist—Jenny Memmott*

Visit our website, [www.heritageumc.org](http://www.heritageumc.org), to give online, register attendance or for info about events & ministries at Heritage.



**Sun, Dec 31—Lessons & Carols Service**

**9:30am in-person & online**

It's 1-2-3-1-2-3... wear your pj's & jammies to worship the King!

**Save the Date - Sunday, Jan 14**

after worship 10:45am-noon

**DIAKONIA**

all church gathering

Discipleship: justice and service

## Worship Song Sheet Sunday 12.24.23

### O Little Town of Bethlehem vs 1,2

#230 UMH

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.

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!

### Joy to the World vs 1,2

#246 UMH

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. 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.

### What Child is This vs 1

#219 UMH

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?

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

### The First Noel vs 1,2

#245 UMH

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

### Silent Night, Holy Night

#239 UMH

**Verse 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.

**Verse 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!

**Verse 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.

**Verse 4 acapella**—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!

*Tilt unlit candle to receive light from lit candle. Keep lit candles upright. When you receive the light, pass it on. Lift your candle during the last verse.*