

Order of worship, 7:00pm (video link below! The red characters are zeroes)
Wednesday Dec 23, 2020. Christmas Eve Eve <https://youtu.be/J0JmGP0ezu0>

MERRY CHRISTMAS! In a year like none other, we welcome God's light coming into the world! This online worship service is offered as a chance to hear the word again and to sing some of the songs. We invite you, wherever and whenever you are, to email Pastor Kerry with any prayer concerns or celebrations, any griefs or questions. The Lakeview and Humphreys church communities are with you, and God is for you! Let us worship the Lord!

Call to Worship

Our waiting is over, and we celebrate the birth of the Christ!

Behold, the Savior appears!

We need not rejoice alone, for the heavenly chorus resounds!

All creation rejoices!

We join our voices with the angels in the sky
and with the faithful all around the world:

Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

Hymn

WORDS & MUSIC: John F. Wade, 1743

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH 234

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. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him ...

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him ...

Responsive Psalm 98

Sing to the Lord a new song

because he has done wonderful things!

***His own strong hand and his own holy arm
have won the victory!***

The Lord has made his salvation widely known;

***he has revealed his righteousness
in the eyes of all the nations.***

God has remembered his loyal love

and faithfulness to the house of Israel;

every corner of the earth has seen our God's salvation.

Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth!

Be happy! Rejoice out loud! Sing your praises!

***Sing your praises to the Lord with the lyre—
with the lyre and the sound of music.***

With trumpets and a horn blast,

shout triumphantly before the Lord, the king!

***Let the sea and everything in it roar;
the world and all its inhabitants too.***

Let all the rivers clap their hands;

let the mountains rejoice out loud altogether before the Lord

because he is coming to establish justice on the earth!

***He will establish justice in the world rightly;
he will establish justice among all people fairly.***

The lighting of the Avent candles and of the Christ Candle

Prayer UMH231

Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world.

Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins,

and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator,

to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.

A child is born to us, a son is given to us,

and authority will be on his shoulders.

He will be named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

There will be vast authority and endless peace

for David's throne and for his kingdom,

establishing and sustaining it

with justice and righteousness

now and forever.

The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this.

Hymn

WORDS: Phillips Brooks, 1868

O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH 230

MUSIC: Lewis H. Redner, 1868

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.
3. 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.

Matthew 1:18-23

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. ²⁰ As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²² Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

²³ *Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,
And they will call him, Emmanuel.
(Emmanuel means "God with us.")*

Hymn

WORDS: William C. Dix, 1865

What Child is This?

UMH 219

MUSIC: 16th cent. English melody

1. 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.*
2. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
*This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*

Luke 2:1-20

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. ² This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. ³ Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. ⁴ Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. ⁵ He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. ⁷ She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the

guestroom.

⁸ Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. ⁹ The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.

¹⁰ The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. ¹¹ Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. ¹² This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

¹⁵ When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go right now to Bethlehem and see what's happened. Let's confirm what the Lord has revealed to us." ¹⁶ They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. ¹⁸ Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. ²⁰ The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

Hymn

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

UMH 240

MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

1. 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!"

*Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of the favored one.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Refrain*
3. 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. *Refrain*

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people. ¹² It educates us so that we can live sensible, ethical, and godly lives right now by rejecting ungodly lives and the desires of this world. ¹³ At the same time we wait for the blessed hope and the glorious appearance of our great God and savior Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He gave himself for us in order to rescue us from every kind of lawless behavior, and cleanse a special people for himself who are eager to do good actions.

Sermon

Hymn

WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1818

Silent Night

UMH 239

MUSIC: Franz Gruber, 1818

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 afar,
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.
4. 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!

Apostolic Call

We have received the light!
Let us go forth in celebration
and as *bearers* of the light!
We go with God's light!
Praise the Lord!

Closing Hymn

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719

Joy to the World

UMH 246

MUSIC: Handel, 1741

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...
2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy...
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found...
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love...

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Watch our Facebook pages for upcoming worship services.

Please contact us if you'd like to connect with one of our churches.

*We say "yes" to God
and we say "thank you" to God
as we give to God our tithes and our offerings.*

*During this time of COVID19 precautions, we do not "pass the plate,"
but offering plates are available for your use before or after the worship service,
and offerings can be mailed to
Lakeview UMC – 2624 East Parkview Drive, St. Albans WV 25177
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