



*Make a joyful noise!
Christ was born,
Let us rejoice!
Hosanna and blessings to all
as we remember
the birth
of our Lord and Savior!
Merry Christmas!*

*For to us
a child is born*

*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
December 24, 2018
6:00 PM*



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church
Since February 12, 1872

Pastor Rev. Hojin Shin
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Welcome! We're glad you're here.

When you see the [*], people are invited to arise as able.

Hymns No. 57-734 are in the red hymnal (*The United Methodist Hymnal*),

2000's are in the black hymnal (*The Faith We Sing*).

Liturgists Marilyn Carlstrom & Kyle Kogel

Organist Rosemary Matthews

Presentation Operator Duhn Family

Greeters Gonzales & Fay families

Ushers Isaac & Amber Embrock

Advent Candle Acolytes Hannah Noethe & Esther Shin

Prelude

Bringing In the Light of Christ

Announcements

Lighting of the Christmas Candle Christmas Eve

Acolytes 1: "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" (Luke 2:6-7).

Acolytes 2: Tonight, angels far and near sing tender lullabies;
well-worn fabric full of years holds in the warmth of parental love;
animals and shepherds crowd in tight, glowing with adoration,
while a muffled cry squeezes out to greet the world.

People: Tonight we give thanks for every child among us.

**Each new birth -- regardless of circumstances
-- reminds us of the preciousness of life,
the potential of tomorrow, the promise of God.**

Acolytes 1 & 2: On this Christmas Eve,
we light the Christ candle
for the child-King, the infant-Redeemer, the lowly-Lord.
And now we know . . .

He is born and nothing will ever be the same!

(Light all candles.)

Hymn 2090 Light the Advent Candle (verse 5)

* Call to Worship

L: He's coming! He's coming! The Savior of the World is coming!

P: Let us prepare our hearts to greet him!

L: He comes to each one of us, healing and restoring our lives!

P: Praise be to God for God's mighty gift to us.

L: O Come, Prince of Peace, bring your light to us!

P: We are ready to receive you in our lives! AMEN.

* Opening Hymn 238 Angels We Have Heard on High



Cindy Magee (her mother passed away)

Kim Opheim (her father passed away)

Florence Malm (Sister-in-law Doris Malm passed away)

Gary Hopkins (Father of Deb Opheim)

Kari & Olivia Hampe

Deb Weir

Rick Jones

Lincoln Coakley (grandson of Joann Coakley)

Richard Henrichs

Will Farlow

Irene Goff

Carol Ensley

Nancy Hinrichs

Joyce Muller

Scott Sanne (Grandson of Pearl Whitmore)

Philip Christenson (brother of Marge Solberg)

Vicki Ellis

Kort Freeman

Lois Lowman

Ted Strohman

Jane Stevens

Vi Sampson

Marjorie Solberg

Deb Nissen (sister-in-law of Deb Wickman)

*Families who have lost their loved ones this year including:

Vida Krough, Ethel DeJung, Shirley Weisbrod, Bernece Hersom, Bette Miller, Vicki Truog, Mary Helen Morling, Jim Coakley, Cindy Kassel, Betty Jo Priest, Orval Hankey, Ellen Saxton, and Luke Rouse.

*Those who have been hospitalized and our military members.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

Thank you, God,
for receiving all who seek you in this holy mystery,
and giving all you are to every one of us,
your flesh and blood in our flesh and blood.
By the power of the Spirit,
send us to spread the good news of the Saviors birth, everywhere;
to all, who long for your coming, touching, teaching, and healing;
and join them in your work
that makes all things new;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Offering "A Hallelujah Christmas" *Rosie Argabright*

* **Doxology** 95 Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

* **Offertory**

* **The Passing of the Light**

* **Closing Hymn** 239 Silent Night, Holy Night

* **Blessing**

* **Song of Sending Forth** "O Holy Night" by Adolphe Adam
—Performed by *Shekinah Praise Team*

"God Is Good All the Time!"

* **Opening Prayer**

**O wondrous God of the stars,
we come tonight with breathless wonder
to see the babe who will change our lives.
We hear the names "Wonderful Counselor,"
"Mighty God," "Prince of Peace,"
and we are in awe.
You have touched the earth this night
with your unconditional love.
Touch us—
touch our hearts and minds and souls.
May we never tire of this story.
May we never take it for granted.
Make this night magical again.**

Christmas Celebration

"Little Drummer Boy" *Junior United Methodist Youth Fellowship*

"Away in a Manger" *Jim Stevens*

"Home for the Holidays" *Hannah Noethe, piano*

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" *Esther Shin, violin*

Christmas Skit *Deny & Brenda Gonzales*

"Gavotte en Rondeau" from Partita No. 3, J.S. Bach *Yihoon Shin, violin*

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" *Yihoon & Esther Shin, violin*

* **Scripture Reading** Matthew 1:18-23

Message of Life "Immanuel-God With Us" Pastor Hojin Shin

Joys Concerns Prayers

* **Prayer of Confession**

It's Christmas Eve again, God.
We're barely ready for it.
So much to do to get ready—
gifts to buy and wrap, parties to attend,
trees to trim, houses to decorate.
We're in a whirlwind of activity.
In the midst of the busyness
we sometimes miss what it is all about—
you coming to earth—Emmanuel—God-with-us.
Help us hear anew
your promises of hope and salvation and love
as we sing our familiar carols.
Forgive us for forgetting the magic of this night,
for focusing on ourselves and what we need to do
instead of on the miracle of Jesus' birth.
Rock us out of our complacency.
Let us hear angel voices,
see shepherds hurrying to a stable,
feel the baby's soft breath on our cheeks,

and ponder in our hearts what all this means
for the world, for us.

*** Words of Assurance**

God's love knows no bounds.
Love comes down at Christmas—
a love so deep and so profound
that nothing will ever be the same again.
Know that this love is come for you—
to touch you, to heal you, to forgive you,
to make you whole.

*** Passing the Peace of Christ**

This night no one is a stranger.
All are joined together as one family
through the miracle of the birth of one small baby.
Let us share our joy and excitement at being present
when God reaches down to touch the earth.
Let us reach out and touch each other in love incarnate.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You created light out of darkness
and brought forth life on the earth.
You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.
In the fullness of time
you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ,
to be our Savior,
and at his birth the angels sang
glory to you in the highest

and peace to your people on earth.

And so,

with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem
and there found no room,
so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem
and was despised and rejected.

As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born,
so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

As your Word became flesh,
born of woman, on that night long ago,
so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.