

Christmas Eve 2017  
Candlelight Service 4:30 p.m.  
Faith United Methodist Church

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**ENTRANCE .....“Come On, Ring Those Bells” [See Insert]**

**CHRISTMAS**

**ALL: 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.**

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**SPECIAL MUSIC.....“Christmas Everywhere” .....Bob Stephan**

**THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**ALL: "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).**

**L: 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.**

**ALL: 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.**

**L: 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!**

**CAROL OF PRAISE.....“Angels We Have Heard on High”.....UMH No. 238 Vs. 1-2**

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**READER #1 THE PROMISE OF THE MESSIAH.....Isaiah 9: 2, 6**  
**THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE DECEMBER 14, 1914**  
**CAROL OF INVITATION “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ...UMH No. 196**  
**READER #2 JESUS TOOK ON OUR SINS.....Romans 8:3-4**  
**CAROL OF JOY.....“Joy to the World” .....UMH No. 246**  
**READER #2 THE ANNUNCIATION.....Luke 1:26-38**  
**SPECIAL MUSIC.....“Mary Did You Know?” .....Piano Solo**  
**READER #3 JOSEPH.....Matthew 1:18-25**  
**Joseph Of The House of David.....Pastor Victor Waters**  
**CAROL OF PRAISE.....“Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine” .....TFWS No. 2099**  
**READER #1 THE BIRTH OF JESUS.....Luke 2:8-20**  
**READER #2 SIMEON.....Luke 2:25-30**  
**SPECIAL MUSIC....."New Kid In Town" .....Bob Stephan**  
**READER #3 GOD IN THE FLESH THE INCARNATION.....John 1:14-18**  
**CAROL OF PRAISE.....“Hark! The Harold Angels Sing” .....UMH No. 240**  
**THE INCARNATION.....*Henri Nouwen Lifesigns***

"Through the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ all human flesh has been lifted up into God's own intimacy. There is no human being in the past, present, or future, in East, West, North, or South, who has not been embraced by God in and through the flesh of the Word. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus manifest to us the full intimacy of

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this divine embrace. He lived our lives, died our deaths, and lifted all of us up into his glory. There is no human suffering that has not been suffered in the agony of Jesus on the cross, no human joy that has not been celebrated by Jesus in the resurrection to new life. There is no human death that Jesus has not died, no human life that Jesus has not lived. In him through whom all has been created, all has been restored to the glory of God."

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE .....“Silent Night, Holy Night”.....UMH No. 239**

**BENEDICTION**

You have heard the stories of old, the stories of God’s salvation.

**With Mary, we have pondered these things in our hearts.**

Go out into the world to love and do as Christ would have you do.

**With Joseph, we realize that our work has just begun.**

As you depart, know that the love of God goes with you wherever you go.

**We are strengthened by Christ’s presence with us. Alleluia!**

**HAVE A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A HOPE FILLED NEW YEAR!**

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**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...**

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12/24/2017 (Sun.)	Christmas Eve Fourth Sunday of Advent Pancake Mix Sunday 4:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
12/25/2017 (Mon.)	<b>Christmas Day</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. - Ardella Draheim Family Christmas (FH) <b>No Conversation, Bible &amp; Friends</b>
12/26/2017 (Tues.)	Faith Messenger Mailed This Week 9:00 a.m. - Noon - Administrative Assistant Hours
12/27/2017 (Wed.)	9:00 a.m. - Noon - Administrative Assistant Hours 10:00 a.m. - Newsletter Folding (Church Office) 7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice
12/28/2017 (Thurs.)	9:00 a.m. - Noon - Administrative Assistant Hours
12/29/2017 (Fri.)	<b>Administrative Assistant Out of Office</b>
12/30/2017 (Sat.)	11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Voshell Family Christmas (**FH)
12/31/2017 (Sun.)	<b>New Year's Eve</b> 9:30 a.m. - Worship Service 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Fellowship

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\*Lakeview Room \*\*Fellowship Hall