

Christmas Eve Family Service

December 24, 2016

WELCOME

Tricia Lindley

Please fill out the attendance pad at your pew and pass it to your neighbors, then back down to the end.

PRELUDE — Polish Lullaby Carol (arr. Edwin Arthur Kraft)

Ty Woodward, Organist

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Janet Searfoss/Director, Mary Crawford/Accompanist

Ding, Dong! Ding, Dong! (Michael Bedford)

RESPONSIVE READING

Sydney Adamson

Do not be afraid; for see - I bring 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 Christ the Lord.

Glory to God in the Highest.

And peace to all who find rest in Him.

HYMN #246 United Methodist Hymnal — Joy to the World

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Tony, Candace, Augie & Blythe Johnson

UNISON RESPONSE

Great God of love and light, we thank you now for the light of that special star that guided shepherds and wise men to the holy baby. Lead us now, by the light of your love, that we also may follow you to new life in him. Amen.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR WITH YOUTH

Hosanna (Natalie Sleeth)

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Kaitlyn Plukas

RECEIVING OUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Rev. Robert English

We thank you for your generous support for the mission and ministries of the congregation. You will find an envelope in the pew rack for your Christmas Offering. The offering plates will be passed to gather our gifts of cash or checks made out to "First UMC." You will find church brochures at the Welcome Table as you leave the service. You may give online or find out more information at santamonicaumc.org.

OFFERTORY Noël (Louis-Claude Daquin)

Ty Woodward

The Christmas Pageant

INTRODUCTION TO THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Terri-Rae Elmer

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #217 UMH – Away in a Manger (verses 1-2)

THE STORY FROM LUKE

Fox Ashwood

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #217 UMH – Away in a Manger (verse 3)

As we sing, the Holy Family will make their way toward the steps at the front of the Church.

ENTRANCE FROM THE HOLY FAMILY

THE STORY FROM LUKE

Dara l'Anson

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #238 UMH – Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 1-2)

As we sing, all angels are invited to come and sit on the steps at the front of the Church to visit the Holy Family.

ENTRANCE OF THE ANGELS

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #238 UMH – Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 3-4)

As we sing, all angels may return to their seats.

THE STORY FROM LUKE

Gavin Kirtley

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #251 UMH – Go, Tell It on the Mountain (verse 1-2)

As we sing, all shepherds and sheep are invited to come and sit on the steps at the front of the Church to visit the Holy Family.

ENTRANCE OF THE SHEPHERDS & SHEEP

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #251 UMH – Go, Tell It on the Mountain (verse 3)

As we sing, all shepherds and sheep may return to their seats.

THE STORY FROM MATTHEW

Kate & Josephine Beckerman

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #254 UMH – We Three Kings (verse 1)

As we sing, all Magi are invited to come and sit on the steps at the front of the Church to visit the Holy Family.

ENTRANCE OF THE MAGI

CONGREGATION RESPONSE: #254 UMH – We Three Kings (verse 5)

As we sing, all Magi may return to their seats.

THE ENTRANCE OF YOU & ME

Terri-Rae Elmer

CLOSING HYMN: #239 UMH – Silent Night, Holy Night

As we sing, all are invited to come and visit the Holy Family and are invited to go in peace.

Please return your costumes to the table in front of the church entrance as you leave.

Director of Children & Youth Ministry: Tricia Lindley
New & Emerging Ministries: Rev. Robert English
Chaplain in Residence: Rev. Keri Olsen
Senior Minister: Rev. Patricia Farris
Children's Choir Director: Janet Searfoss
Accompanist: Mary Crawford
Organist: Ty Woodward
Holy Family: Sarah, Dane & Dominic Rold
A/V Engineer: Adam Guerrero
Head Usher: John Ward

An area labeled "Kids Zone" in the narthex is open to all parents with small children during tonight's worship. You may sit or play with your children and still hear the service. A changing station is provided in the restroom in the hallway just west of the Fireside Room. Please see one of the ushers if you need assistance.

Welcome! We count it a privilege and a blessing to worship with you on this joyous Christmas Eve, and invite you to join us for the Candlelight Service this evening at 11 p.m., and tomorrow for Christmas Day Family Service at 10 a.m. If you come as a guest, we hope you will leave as a friend.

College students are invited to a reception in the Fireside Room following the 11 p.m. service. Friends are also welcome!

The Sunday worship service is at 10 a.m. with a nursery for babies and toddlers, and Sunday School classes for 3 year-olds through 5th grade. The youth program is Sunday evenings from 6:15 - 8:30 p.m. We also offer Messy Church, a family worship service held monthly on Saturdays at 4 p.m.

First UMC takes the care and safety of children very seriously. We are a Safe Sanctuary congregation.

If there are Prayer Quilts on the north wall of the sanctuary, you are invited to pray over and tie knots on the quilts.

We express our appreciation to Mike Eskridge and the Seasonal Displays Committee for the special floral arrangements and greens that beautify the Sanctuary. If you dedicated poinsettias, you may take them home tonight after the 11 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight service or tomorrow after the Christmas Day Family Service.
