

United Presbyterian Church
6510 3rd Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34209
(941) 792-3141 (941) 748-2848

December 24, 2023

Welcome and Outreach Announcements

Prelude
Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

Mark Allebach
Dickerson family

...On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light a candle for love.

We light a candle for love. May it light the way.

*Gathering Song	My Soul Cries out with a Joyful Shout	100
1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?	2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)	

Refrain:
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us, yet we make plans without listening to you. We discover that our human agenda drowns out our ability to hear your will for us. Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever. Amen.

*Declaration of Forgiveness

Response

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.**

Scripture Luke 1:46 b-55

Special Music Infant Holy, Infant Lowly Debbie Grubb, Mary Morse, Elenita Musgrove

Litany

Because Christ has been born in the world,

People who walked in darkness now live in great light.

Because Christ has been born in the world,

The power to oppress and kill will not stand.

Because Christ has been born in the world, we respond in wonder:

With the angels, we sing glory to God;

With the shepherds, we share the good news;

With Mary, we ponder the words of this day;

Special Music:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jenkins family

...The love of heaven has come to Earth. The call of Christ begins in a baby's cry. Listen and respond.

We light the Christ candle. May it light the way.

*Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133

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! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father,

now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him,

Christ, the Lord!

Scripture

Luke 2:1-7

See Insert

Anthem

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Chancel Choir

Scripture

Luke 2:8-14

Anthem

A Highland Carol

Chancel Choir

Scripture

Luke 2:15-20

See Insert

Message

A Pageant Remembered

Rev. Edward Dunn

*Sharing the good news

Prayer for Christmas

Receiving our Offering Mary, Did You Know?

Prayer of Dedication
Scripture John 1:1-5, 10-14 See insert

Lighting our Candles

Hymn Silent Night 122

**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**

**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**

Please stand, as you are able, as we sing the third verse.

**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**

*Blessing

*Response	Joy to the World	134
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.	He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love	

*Postlude Gloria Woody Johnson

