

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Peace United Church of Christ December 24, 2016

SPECIAL MUSIC Please hold all applause

Brass Ensemble

Piano Solo

Vocal Selections

Bell Solo

PRELUDE *“Angels We Have Heard on High” Organ & Piano*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Christ Candle

***HYMN “The First Noel”no. 179**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Almighty God - you have made this night holy by the gift of your son, born of the Holy Spirit and of Mary. Upon him rested all your grace. Through him all your grace and mercy has come to us. Let his light shine within our hearts and may our lives shine with his light tonight even more brightly than it shines from the candles in this place. As we celebrate your priceless gift of love, help us to feel your presence, hear your word and live and share your everlasting love that has come to us through him. AMEN.

BELL CHOIR *“The Babe of Bethlehem”*
“Repeat the Sounding Joy”

HEBREW SCRIPTURES Isaiah 9:1-7 pg. 555

CHOIR ANTHEM *“And This Shall be a Sign”*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:1-19 pg. 832

MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM *“Dona Nobis Pacem”*

THE GATHERING OF OUR GIFTS *piano & organ*

“What Child is This”

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE/Doxology.....no. 382**

***CANDLELIGHT SERVICE “Silent Night”**

We invite the congregation to sing when the choir begins to sing

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!

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.

***HYMN “Joy to the World!”no. 171**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*(those who are able please *- stand)*

Pastor.....Rev. William E. Hoch

Organist.....Mrs. Virginia Tobias

Assistant Organist.....Mrs. Lois Haldeman

Altar Guild Workers.....Edie Graff and Dixie Schweitzer

Greeters.....The Butz Family

We invite those who purchased poinsettias to pick them up after worship this evening.

We offer a special thank you to the musicians and vocalist who contributed their gifts and talents for this evening's service:

Brass - Clair Lausch, Dan Schweitzer, Mark Anthony, Eric Schweitzer, Jim Anthony, John McDonough and Richard Pawling

Piano - Allyson Butz

Vocalists - Sheree Wolf, Heidi McDonough, Dan and Pat Hall, Becky Moyer and Ben Weaver

Bells: Cindy Anthony