

# Peace United Church of Christ



## Worship Resources for Christmas Eve December 24, 2024

*Welcome to Christmas Eve Worship! We invite you to have worship near your tree, and if you have an Advent wreath, light the Christ candle as part of the service, and light other candles*

*with your family as you sing "Silent Night."*

*Merry Christmas! Pastor Betsy and the congregation of Peace UCC*

### Welcome

#### Carol "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

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;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, 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.

### Gathering Prayer

***God, this is a night of light and love!  
Messiah has come! Jesus is born!  
We light the Christ candle to symbolize  
the new life flaming brightly in our hearts.  
We share that light with one another  
and with the world, so that your love may shine  
for all. May we listen to the story anew this night,  
so that we may grow in grace. Blessed be the name of Jesus! Amen***

## Good News: Hear the Story of Christmas: Luke 2: 1-20

### Lighting the Christ Candle

**Prayer: *We are in awe, standing in the presence of Emmanuel, God with us. From heaven to earth you have come, God. In a small and vulnerable child you have come, God. Blessed be your name, and the name of Jesus, this night and forevermore. Gloria in Excelsis Deo! Amen***

### Carol      “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Angels, we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o’er the plains;  
And the mountains in reply  
Echo back their joyous strains.  
Glo.....ria  
In Excelsis Deo,  
Glo.....ria  
In Excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, The newborn King.  
Glo.....ria  
In Excelsis Deo,  
Glo.....ria  
In Excelsis Deo.

**A Story for All Children      Sounding Joy      a book by Ellie Holcomb**

## Good News: Hear the Story of Christmas: Matthew 2: 1-12

### A Christmas Prayer: Lighting the Blue Christmas Candle

#### Carol      “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

### Visiting the Candle Nativity

## Christmas Candle Lighting

### Song "Silent Night"

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.

## Benediction

### Song "Joy to the World"

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.

