

**Union Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**Virtual Worship Service**

*“Our Mission is to follow Jesus and serve as He would.”*



**PRELUDE**

Piano – What Child is This/ Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring...Mary McDonald

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Susan Frickert, piano

I Saw Three Ships...arr. Kurt Bestor (Pre-Recorded)

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Carson Mesics, violin, & Jordan Bucks, piano

Cold December Flies Away...arr. Cathy Moglebust (ASCAP) (Pre-Recorded)

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Glory Ringers

8 pm - Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child...spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes

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Justin Kuhlman, vocal soloist

11 pm - Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song)...Chris Eaton and Amy Grant

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Sierra Hohenshilt, vocal soloist

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.

**We long for a light to guide us.**

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy.

**We long for God's joy in our lives.**

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

**We long to be relieved of all that we carry.**

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; he is named Wonderful  
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**He is named Emmanuel: God with us.**

**In this tiny baby, this vulnerable child,**

**we find our light, our joy, our comfort.**

**Joy to the World! The Lord is come!**

## **CAROL- Oh, Come All Ye Faithful**

### *Verse 1*

*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!*

*Verse 4*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!*

*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!*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Creator God, By your greatness you became small, by your power you became powerless, by your limitlessness you became limited. Through the birth of your son, we can live in your light that shines on a world transformed by the limitless power of your love. Amen.

## **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

O God, you search us out and know us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned.

**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we make no room for Christ, and fail to welcome him into our lives,

**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we follow shooting stars and squander our gifts in Herod's court,

**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we seek to cut down those who might rise above us,

**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we sanitize your birth place and erase from memory the poor and displaced,

**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth, and fail to rejoice over his everyday presence,

**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

We turn to you, O Christ, perfect union of Spirit and flesh;

**We renounce evil; We claim your love; We wish to be made whole.**

Hear the good news:

Even the darkness is not dark to God, and the night is as bright as the day.

The God who promised never to leave us or forsake us HAS come to us in Jesus Christ, the one who binds up the broken hearted, heals all our weaknesses, and relieves our burden of sin.

So arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord shines upon you. AMEN!

**SPECIAL MUSIC** - Noel...Matt Redman, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, arr. Heather Sorenson

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Praise Band

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY**- Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

**SERMON**- The Rev. Gordon A. Camp

**SPECIAL MUSIC** - Baby, What You Gonna Be?...Natalie Sleeth

©1972 Carl Fischer, Inc., New York

Audrey Marsteller and Brian Bucks, vocal duet

**PRAYERS**

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

The shepherds sing, “Jesus Christ is born!” Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news, over the hills and everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Heaven and nature sing, “Joy to the world!” Give respite to flocks, fields, and those who tend them. Come near to us in the beauty of nighttime, the shining of the stars, and the hush of a world at rest. May our wonder at your creation rouse our care for all the earth. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

The angels sing, “Peace on earth!” Come quickly to still the strife of this world. Hush the noise of war and violence in places of unrest (especially). Inspire leaders of nations to seek lasting peace and sustainable provision for all in their care. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Mary sings melodies of comfort to her newborn child. Bring rest and reassurance to those facing struggles this night. Shelter travelers and those without homes. Console those who lie awake due to pain or anxiety. Heal those who are sick or hurting (especially). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Love sings through the sound of a new baby's cry. Bless new parents and expectant parents. Comfort those who long for children, especially those running out of hope or options. Surround families of every shape and size with your love and care. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

The heavenly chorus sings, "Glory to God in the highest!" We give you thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed your glory in word and deed (especially). Let us join them this night in joyful praise around your eternal throne (especially). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

**SPECIAL MUSIC** - All is Well...Wayne Kirkpatrick and Michael W. Smith, arr.

Lloyd Larson

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Union Chorale

### **CANDLE LIGHTING**

Come to us, Lord Jesus,

Be born in us this night, in our hearts, our minds, our lives.

May the light of your life be kindled in us. Amen

## **CAROL- SILENT NIGHT**

### *Verse 1*

*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.*

### *Verse 2*

*Silent night, holy night!*  
*Shepherds quake at the sight;*  
*glories stream from heaven afar,*  
*heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!*  
*Christ, the Savior, is born!*  
*Christ, the Savior, is born!*

### *Verse 3*

*Silent night, holy night!*  
*Son of God, love's pure light*  
*radiant beams from your holy face,*  
*with the dawn of redeeming grace,*  
*Jesus, Lord, at your birth,*  
*Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

## **BLESSING**

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this night † through the Word made flesh.  
Amen.

## **CAROL- JOY TO THE WORLD**

### *Verse 1*

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

### *Verse 4*

*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 wonder, wonders of his love.*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **ORGAN POSTLUDE** - Joy to the World!...arr. Michael Burkhardt

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Susan Frickert, organ

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**Sunday Worship Services** - will continue to be emailed to you every Sunday morning. Check out previous worship services or Wednesday devotions by going to our website: [www.ulclv.org](http://www.ulclv.org). Click on the blue button "Click here for Virtual Worship".

**Listen to Worship Services on your Phone** - Hearing Pastor Camp's weekly scripture reading and sermon is only a phone call away...just call 610-885-8237. This phone call is free and will allow those who do not have access to a computer to hear Pastor's weekly message. Check it out...Call 610-885-8237!

**Drive-in church** – will be held every Sunday. You will be able to stay in your car and tune your radio to our very own Union Lutheran FM radio "station", 94.3 FM, or you can simply open your window and listen live! Note if you have a larger vehicle, please be considerate of others and park your vehicle in the back or sides of the lot. If you prefer sitting outdoors, no problem, seating will be available in the parking lot. Please continue to bring your chairs and to wear your masks.



*May promise fill these days as you watch at  
the edge of birth and may faith tell you...  
Emmanuel is here!*

# **Union Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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**Website:** www.ulclv.org

**email:** office @ulclv.org

**Facebook.com/ulclv**

**Miller-Keystone Blood Center #1258 - ULC**

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	Cell 610-554-8061
<b>Pastor Emeritus</b>	The Rev. Dennis W. Moore
<b>Asst. to the Pastor</b>	Cathy C. Shaffer
<b>Director of Music</b>	Susan Frickert
<b>Asst. Office Administrator</b>	Katie Stauter
<b>Sexton</b>	Terry P. Hoffman
<b>Parish Nurses</b>	Dorothy Bealer
	Jane Borbe

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