

WORSHIP HANDOUT

December 24th
Christmas Eve



WELCOME

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

L: Tonight is the night for which we have been waiting. The Advent wreath is completed with the Christ candle in the center. "For unto us a child is given, unto us a Savior is born, and the order of the world will be upon his shoulders." With the birth of Christ our lives are centered, focused, turned toward God. We light this candle because Christ is the center of our lives.

Let us pray.

P: O Shepherd of the world's people, we are alone in our fields, keeping watch in the night. Heavy clouds cover us; prowling wolves shadow us. Dispatch a shaft of light from heaven! Send an angelic choir to sing their hymn in our midst! Show us the way to Bethlehem that we may witness this thing that has happened. And when all is made known, we shall return to our fields, glorifying and praising you for all we have seen and heard. In your Holy name we pray. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

On this holiest of nights,
**we come, joining the shepherds
who are stunned by wonder.**

On this most silent night,
**we come, our hopes and dreams
joining those of Mary and Joseph.**

On this nights of carols and candlelight,
**we come, our glad songs joining
with the choirs of angels over us.**

~ written by Rev. Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies. Posted on LiturgyLink. <http://www.liturgylink.net/>

*OPENING HYMN	UMH 234	O Come, All Ye Faithful vs. 1,2,3
OPENING PRAYER		
FIRST LESSON	CEB	Isaiah 9:2,6-7
HYMN	UMH 209	Blessed Be the God of Israel vs. 1
SECOND LESSON	CEB	Luke 2:1-5
HYMN	UMH 230	O Little Town of Bethlehem vs. 1
THIRD LESSON	CEB	Luke 2:6-7
HYMN	UMH 230	O Little Town of Bethlehem vs.2,3,4
CHILDREN'S MOMENT		PA
FOURTH LESSON	CEB	Luke 2:8-14

HYMN	UMH238	Angels We Have Heard on High vs. 1-3
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FIFTH LESSON	CEB	Luke 2:15-20
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SPECIAL MUSIC		Welcome to Our World Doris Collins & Doris Henderson
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SIXTH LESSON	CEB	Matthew 2:1-11
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CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

SEVENTH LESSON	CEB	John 1:1-14
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OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

MESSAGE

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

HYMN	UMH 239	Silent Night, Holy Night
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*BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN	UMH 246	Joy to the World
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*POSTLUDE