

HOLLYWOOD UMC



Knowing
Jesus and
Making
Jesus
Known

CHRISTMAS

EVE
VIGIL

December 24, 2023

PRELUDE

Mary Jane Seanor

“The First Noel/Christmas Eve Waltz”

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Mt. Sylvan UMC, Durham, NC

Pastor: Rejoice, for God is with us—Emmanuel.

People: In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light.

Pastor: Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live.

People: God is truly with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God!

*** CAROL**

UMH #234

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*** PRAYER**

Gracious God, With joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time. Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors.”

This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.

THE PROPHECY OF THE MESSIAH John 1:1–2, 4–5

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named

People: Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace,
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God with us, Emmanuel.

THE COMING OF JESUS IS ANNOUNCED TO MARY & JOSEPH

Luke 1:26–38, Matthew 1:18–25

SPECIAL SONG

Mary Jane Seanor

“What Child is This”

THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Luke 2:1–5

CAROL

UMH #230

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

JESUS is BORN

Luke 2:6–7

CAROL

UMH #217

“Away in a Manger”

SPECIAL MUSIC

Emma Seanor

“Noel”

JESUS’ BIRTH is ANNOUNCED TO THE SHEPHERDS

Luke 2:9–14

CAROL

UMH #240

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE SHEPHERDS FIND THE BABY JESUS

Luke 2:15–18

CAROL

UMH #245

“The First Noel”

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Tate

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

People: Merciful God, we confess that often we find darkness more comfortable than light. We confess that we find your good news frightening and unsettling, especially when we consider its demands as well as its promises. We confess that Christmas has become more to us than the birthday of the Christ, partly because we do not want a Christ-Child in our lives or in our world. Forgive us, break us, bend us, remake us. Give us the courage to lay ourselves open to the wonder and healing of your coming. Be born again into our world, be born again into our hearts and lives. Hear now our silent and personal confessions as we prepare ourselves for your nativity.

Leader: The true light that enlightens all has come into the world.
That light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness has
never been able to put it out. This is the good news:
God has heard our confession. God has forgiven our sin.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT

CAROL

UMH #239

"Silent Night"

BENEDICTION

*** CAROL**

UMH #246

"Joy to the World"

POSTLUDE

Mary Jane Seanor

"Joy to the World"

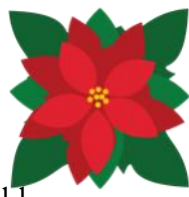
* We stand in body or in spirit to give glory to God.

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal TFWS = The Faith We Sing





P O I N S E T T I A S



G I V E N B Y . . .

Jean Loffler (x2)
IN MEMORY OF
Carl "Buddy" Loffler,
Her Husband,
and their parents

The Marks Family
IN MEMORY OF
Patrick Marks,
Their Father and Grandfather

K. Liebschutz (x2)
IN MEMORY OF
The Gloger, Liebschutz, and
Lathon Families

K. Liebschutz (x2)
IN HONOR OF
The Men and Women of our
Armed Services

Janet Cook
IN HONOR OF
Members of Lunch Bunch

Cain Family
IN MEMORY OF
Iva Cain, Bill's Mother and
Fred Cain, Bill's Brother

Cain Family
IN MEMORY OF
Otis & Louise Wood and
Roy & Mary Calvert,
Candy's Grandparents

The Branch Family
IN MEMORY OF
Mike Branch

Shirley Tubbs
IN MEMORY OF
J.C. Tubbs, Her Husband, and
IN HONOR OF
Her Children and Grandchildren

Janine & Mike Schmitt
IN HONOR OF
Their Children, Grandchildren,
and Great-Grandson

Janine & Mike Schmitt
IN MEMORY OF
Lois & Will Oney,
Janine's Parents

Janine & Mike Schmitt
IN MEMORY OF
Art Oney, Forrest Oney and
Roberta Oney,
Janine's Siblings

Tom & Janet McGovern
IN HONOR OF
Their Family

Brian Getty
IN MEMORY OF
Marilyn Getty, His First Wife, and
Leonard & Barbara Getty,
His Parents

Gail Hepp-Getty
IN MEMORY OF
Roger Hepp, Her First Husband,
and Althea & Milton Loudon,
Her Parents



P O I N S E T T I A S

G I V E N B Y . . .



The Benhams
IN MEMORY OF
Bill & Barbara Benham,
Bill's Parents

Sarah Burr
IN MEMORY OF
Paul & Jean Rothwell
Her "Adopted" Grandparents

The Benhams
IN HONOR OF
Lailon & Frankie Dorsey,
April's Parents

Tammy Burr
IN MEMORY OF
Bill & Sharon Williams,
Her Parents

Kim Bentley & Family
IN MEMORY OF
J. C. Tubbs,
Kim's Father

Wade Thompson
IN MEMORY OF
Rodney & Jeanette Thompson,
His Parents

Kim Bentley & Family
IN HONOR OF
Shirley Tubbs,
Kim's Mother

Wade Thompson
IN MEMORY OF
Latelle & Edna Thompson and
Clarence & Helen Davis
His Grandparents

Tricia Blaser
IN MEMORY OF
Gary Callis,
Her Father

Brian Getty
IN MEMORY OF
Steve Getty,
His Brother

Tricia Blaser
IN MEMORY OF
Mr. & Mrs. Noah Callis Jr.,
Her Grandparents

THANK YOU

for helping us make
the sanctuary beautiful for Christmas! You may take
your poinsettias home following the service. Please
do not take the large poinsettias on the pedestals.



CHRISTMAS OFFERING

This year's Christmas Offering will go to our HUMC Needy Fund and to Three Oaks. All offerings received during the Christmas Eve evening services will be directed to the Christmas Offering. You can also use the Christmas Offering envelope from your numbered box or [give online to the Christmas Offering all month long.](#)



LESSONS
AND
Carols

**Sunday, December 3 |
10:00 AM**



EPIPHANY/STAR WORDS SERVICE

**OUR SERVICE ON SUNDAY,
JANUARY 7, WILL FEATURE
STAR WORDS FOR YOU TO
FOCUS ON IN 2024.**

Merry



Christmas