

**Christmas Eve Worship Service**  
**6:00 pm, December 24, 2009**

GATHERING TIME AND WELCOME Ron Ballard

PRELUDE *On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing* arr. Dale Wood

\*CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Mike Sykes

L: Glory to God in the highest.

**P: AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TO ALL.**

L: Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,  
which shall be to all people,

**P: GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH.**

\*CAROL OF PRAISE NO. 220 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* Smart  
sing stanzas 1 and 4

CALL TO REFLECTION ON GOD'S HOLY WORD Rev. Allison Coltrane

**Friends in Christ, at this Christmas-tide let it be our desire and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Therefore, let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of Isaiah's prophecy unto the glorious redemption brought to us by his Holy Child.**

SCRIPTURE READING *Isaiah 7:14* Rev. Allison Coltrane

CAROL NO. 211 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 15<sup>th</sup> Century French Carol  
sing stanzas 1 and 7

SCRIPTURE READING *Micah 5:2-4* Chris Leak

CAROL NO. 230 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* Redner  
sing stanzas 1 and 3

SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 2:1-15* Rev. Allison Coltrane

CAROL NO. 238 *Angels We Have Heard On High* French Carol  
sing stanzas 1 and 3

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Krista Edwards & Family  
*The white color signifies the pure life of Christ: the flame is a symbol of Christ, the Light of the world.*

PRAYER (in unison) Chris Leak

**Merciful and most loving God, by whose will and bountiful gift Jesus Christ our Lord became humbled that all people might be exalted; and became flesh that he might restore in us the lost celestial image: Grant unto us the inheritance of the meek, perfect us in your likeness, and bring us at last to rejoice in beholding your beauty, and, with all the saints, to glorify your grace, who has given your only-begotten Son to be the Savior of the world. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME *SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 2:16-20* Rev. Mike Sykes

\*CAROL NO. 246 *Joy to the World* Handel  
sing stanzas 1 and 2

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Allison Coltrane

THE WORSHIP OF GOD WITH GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS Chris Leak

OFFERTORY *What Child Is This* arr. John Behnke

\*DOXOLOGY  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise him above ye heavenly host; Praise, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

ANTHEM *Gesu Bambino* Pietro A. You

THE LORD'S SUPPER (See Insert) Rev. Mike Sykes

\*SERVICE OF CANDLELIGHTING

*As "Silent Night" is being sung, the lights will be dimmed and the minister will light a candle from the Christ candle on the altar. Light will then be passed to each worshipper. The unlighted candle is tipped to be lighted.*

\*CAROL

*Silent Night*

Gruber

**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.**

**Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Rev. Allison Coltrane

**O Christ, our only Savior, we ask, as we hold our candles, that you would so dwell within us that we may go forth with the light of hope in our eyes, the fire of inspiration on our lips, your Word on our tongues, and your love in our hearts. Amen.**

*~Please extinguish your candles at this time...~*

\*BENEDICTION

Go in peace, and may the Lord God Almighty – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you and keep you safe in his love both now and forevermore. Amen.

\*POSTLUDE

*Now Sing We, Now Rejoice  
In Dulci Jubilo*

James Engel

\*Stand as you are able

*The Rockingham District Christmas Offering this year is  
for "Aid to Hickory Grove Outreach Ministries".*