

THE
United Church
OF THE **San Juans**

CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2024
4:30 P.M.



**A CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
OF LESSONS, CANDLES AND CAROLS**

GATHERING MUSIC

Stepping into Wonder: Preludes

The First Noel

Alex Birck, Piano

O Christmas Tree

(Vince Guaraldi)

Katy Kristoffersen, Piano

Christmas Time is Here

(Vince Guaraldi and Lee Mendelson)

Youth Choir

Little Drummer Boy

(Katherine Kennicott Davis)

Youth Choir

THE WELCOME AND OPENING SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:6-7

Rev. Melinda Veatch

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.

“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

CAROL # 182

O Come, All Ye Faithful

(Attr. John F. Wade)

All Verses

Congregation

A TIME FOR REFLECTION

Melinda Veatch

CALL FOR OFFERING AND SPECIAL MUSIC

O Holy Night

(Placide Cappeau, text; Adolphe Adam, music)

Youth and Adult Choir

*O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior’s birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, O night divine!*

*Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing heart by his cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;*

*He knows our need, he guards us from all danger.
Behold your King; before him lowly bend!
Behold your king; before him lowly bend!*

*Truly he taught us to love one another;
His law is love and his gospel is peace.
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
And in his name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise his holy name.*

*Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!*

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Silent Night ! Holy Night!

(Joseph Mohr, words; Franz Gruber, music)

CAROL # 186

All Verses

Congregation

BLESSING

CAROL # 179

Joy to the World

(Isaac Watts words; George Frideric Handel, music)

Verses 1, 2, and 4

Congregation

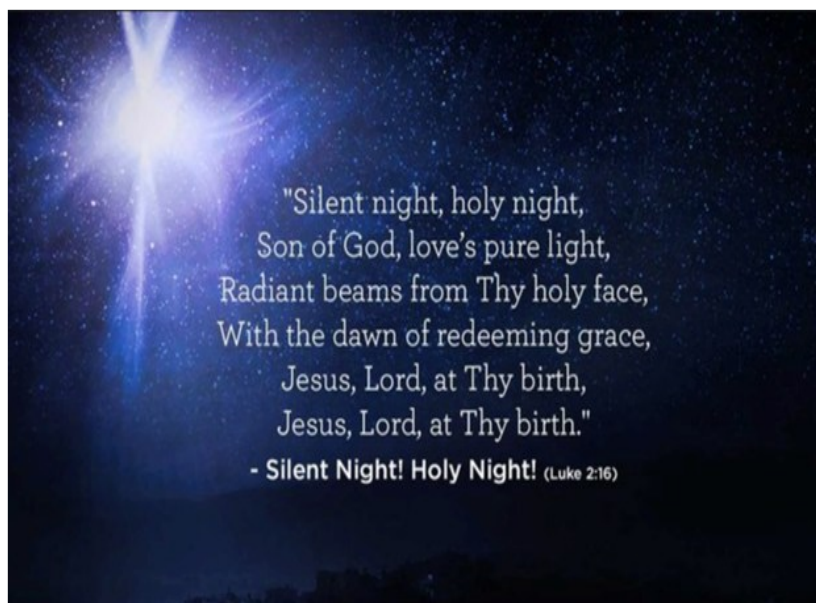
POSTLUDE

Skating (Vince Guaraldi)

Katy Kristoffersen

OUR MISSION

- We are a loving and compassionate church family that *respects the dignity and integrity* of each individual.
- We find our joy and meaning through faith in God and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.
- We seek to promote Christian unity and to encourage understanding and cooperation with those from different traditions.
- We seek to foster deeper relationships with God and each other through worship, fellowship, growth and service.



WE ARE AFFILIATED WITH

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA ~ THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



Rev. Melinda A. Veatch

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Church Office hours: Tuesday & Wednesday -- 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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