

Welcome to
St. Luke Union Church

Presbyterian Church (USA) • United Church of Christ
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Christmas Eve Worship Service

December 24, 2024 7:00pm

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Glory to you, almighty God, for you sent your only-begotten Son, that we might have new life. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for you became flesh and dwelt among us that we might become your people. Glory to you, Holy Spirit for you direct and rule our lives. Glory to you, almighty God, and to your Son, Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ~ The Southwick Family

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

People: We light this candle in celebration, for the grace of God has appeared in the flesh.

Leader: May the light of the world, our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ guide us,

People: As we walk daily in the way of his hope, love, joy, and peace.

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: The Lord’s name be praised.

Reading:

Titus 2:11-14

Prayer:

With choirs of angels, and with all the heavenly host, we sing “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all.”

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory. **Alleluia!**

HYMN #23

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!

All: Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

Leader: O Christ, splendor of God’s eternal glory, the mighty Word, sustaining the universe:
Renew our lives by your presence.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time for the liberation of all creation:
Release all into your promised freedom.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time, born in a stable at Bethlehem:
May your church be a sign of hope and joy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS (Continued)

Leader: O Christ, truly God and truly human, born to a people in fulfillment of their expectations:
Fulfill our desires in you.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: O Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, child of wonder and splendor, mighty God of all ages,
Prince of Peace: May the whole world live in peace and justice.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary
hearts with peace. Teach us to proclaim the birth of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and
reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

HYMN #44

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ANTHEM

“No Candle Was There”
SLUC Choir

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Glorious God, in Jesus your grace appears, bringing salvation to all. Help us to ponder your words of
love by the light of your Spirit, that we may proclaim glad tidings of peace and welcome Christ in our
world. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

ANTHEM

“Mary, Did You Know?”
Doug Ferrier

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:1-20
Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

“XPmas”
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Gifford

HYMN #53

“What Child Is This”

OFFERING

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation
Prayer of Thanksgiving
The Lord’s Prayer
Words of Institution
Distribution of Loaf and Cup
Prayer Following Communion

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as
it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and
the glory, forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

HYMN #60

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE