

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES:

(The congregation is invited to join in singing Silent Night. The dancers will start the lighting of the candles. Please “pass the light” by tipping the unlit candle into the lit candle to those near you.)

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

**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!**

THE CONGREGATION MAY LEAVE IN SILENCE

*(As you leave the sanctuary, please extinguish your candle with care before moving from the pew.
Candles may be returned to the ushers in the rear of the sanctuary.)*

Advent Wreath and Manger: Ken Guerin

Altar Guild: Chad & Phyllis Thompson

Musicians: Devon & Borys Bakum, Dan Fleury, Wynton Jarvinen, Hannah & Leah Rosenman

Ushers: Head Usher; Sheila Womble, **Ushers;** Nicole Baker, Sheila Womble

Video Team: Nicole Baker, Brian Crawford, Nic Odell, Jack Rust, Eric Wing

Trinity United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

361 Sumner Ave. Springfield, MA 01108 • 413-737-5311 • www.trinityspringfield.org

Rev. René Perez, Pastor

Michael Carney, Director of Music Ministries

Rob Powell, Director of Family Ministries and Communications

Cathy MacGovern, Spiritual Director

OUR MISSION: celebrate God’s love, nurture relationships with God and one another, and serve our community and world as we share the light of Christ.



CHRISTMAS EVE - 2021
A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

*** Stand if you are able**

SANCTUARY **11:00 p.m.**

PRELUDE: "Away in a Manger" arr. D. Avey

WELCOME:

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: An unmarried teenage girl was invited— to carry Christ into this world.

P: An ordinary carpenter was invited— to be a father to a child unlike any other.

L: The shepherds were invited—outcast and isolated, included at the manger.

L: The Magi were invited— foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.

L: And if she was invited, and he was invited, and they were invited—

P: Then we can trust that we too are invited.

L: This story is for us.

P: This love is for us.

L: Family of faith, this is our invitation. Welcome home.

P: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN:** "Joy to the World" UMH #246

A Journey Towards Trust

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25 **Reader:** Wynton Jarvinen

HYMN: "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" UMH #204

A Journey Towards Courage

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-38 **Reader:** Borys Bakum

SPECIAL MUSIC "Sussex Carol" P. Young
Hannah and Leah Rosenman, Wynton Jarvinen

A Journey Towards Praise

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:39-55 **Reader:** Hannah Rosenman

HYMN: "Blessed Be the God of Israel" UMH #209
(Verses 1&3)

A Journey Towards Refuge

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:1-7 **Reader:** Phyllis Thompson

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

HYMN: "Away in a Manger" UMH #217

A Journey Towards Fulfilled Promises

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:8-20 **Reader:** Devon Bakum

HYMN: "The First Noel" UMH #245
(Verses 1, 2, 4)

A Journey Towards Endless Peace

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 9:6-7 **Reader:** Nicole Smith

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION: "Welcome Home"

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND TITHES

Jesus was not born in a real home. He was born into poverty. He was born into simplicity. He was born into a manger in Bethlehem. And despite the little he might have had, Jesus still spent the rest of his days on earth giving to others. Generosity is in the DNA of our faith. We give what we can, not because we should or because scripture says to. We give because we're family. We give because we belong to one another. We give because all are invited into God's house. So let us give our tithes and our offerings now.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

(All offerings tonight that are not regular pledges will go to support those in need within our community and in other countries through the "Christmas Is Not Your Birthday" appeal this year.)

OFFERTORY: "O Holy Night" A. Adam
Devon Bakum

A Journey Towards Brighter Days

SCRIPTURE: John 1:1-5, 10-14 **Reader:** Leah Rosenman

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER:

AN OFFERING OF MUSIC, MOVEMENT AND DANCE:

"What Child Is This"
Trinity's Dance Movement Choir