

# Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



**Wednesday, December 24, 2025**  
**7:30 PM**

**Prospect Street United Methodist Church**

185 S. Prospect Street  
Marion, Ohio 43302  
(740)382-6069  
Joshua Freshour, Pastor

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\* Please stand if you are able

Please silence all electronic devices

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

PRELUDE

Jim Anderson & Gary Flach

“Three Festive Carols”

arr. by Mark Hayes and Marvin Gaspard

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IS BROUGHT FORTH

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE

\*HYMN OF HOPE

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” vs. 1 - 3

#234

**O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him,  
born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!  
True God of true God,  
Light from Light Eternal,  
lo, he shuns not the Virgin’s womb;  
Son of the Father,  
begotten, not created;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!  
Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;**

O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE

\*HYMN OF LOVE

“What Child Is This?” vs. 1 -3

#219

**What child is this who laid to rest  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet  
with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.  
Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear,  
for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.  
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“It Came Upon A Midnight Clear”  
arr. by Carolyn Hamlin & Faye Lopez

DOXOLOGY

#95

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Word Was Made Flesh”

Senior Choir

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE

**The first Noel  
the angel did say  
was to certain  
poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they  
lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night  
that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.  
They looked up and saw  
a star shining in the east,  
beyond them far;  
and to the earth  
it gave great light,  
and so it continued  
both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.**

YOUTH DRAMA

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH CANDLE

**Away in a manger,  
no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus,  
laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky  
looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus,  
asleep on the hay.  
The cattle are lowing,  
the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus,  
no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus,  
look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle  
till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus,  
I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever,  
and love me, I pray;  
bless all the dear children  
in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven  
to live with thee there.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room. <sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

***"Caring for Christ"***

Pastor Josh Freshour

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

SPECIAL MUSIC

“O Holy Night”  
arr. by Adolphe Adam

Lynette Burris & Jim Anderson

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

PRAYER OVER THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

**(Pastor will light those candles seated on the inside of the pew and they will in turn pass the light from person to person until all in pews have candles lit)**

\*CLOSING HYMN

“Silent Night, Holy Night” vs. 1 - 4

#239

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!

\*SENDING FORTH & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World” arr. by Joel Raney