#### Affirmation of Faith

Jessie Simpson, WPC

Time after time, the angels break in with a greeting:

"Do not fear."

So when our days are heavy and our sleep grows restless,

we believe that God is near.

When fear feels greater than hope, we'll look for signs of new life; we'll take a step toward God with shaking knees; we'll stand together, and we won't let fear stop us.

When we're desperate for Christ, Emmanuel, God-With-Us, we'll remember:

we are the hands and feet of Christ, made in God's own image, called to be light-bearers in a fearful world.

For we know that, no matter how it may seem, **God is here, among us, even now. Amen.** 

## Song

"O Little Town Of Bethlehem"

#### **Benediction**

Liturgy by Rev. Anna Strickland | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

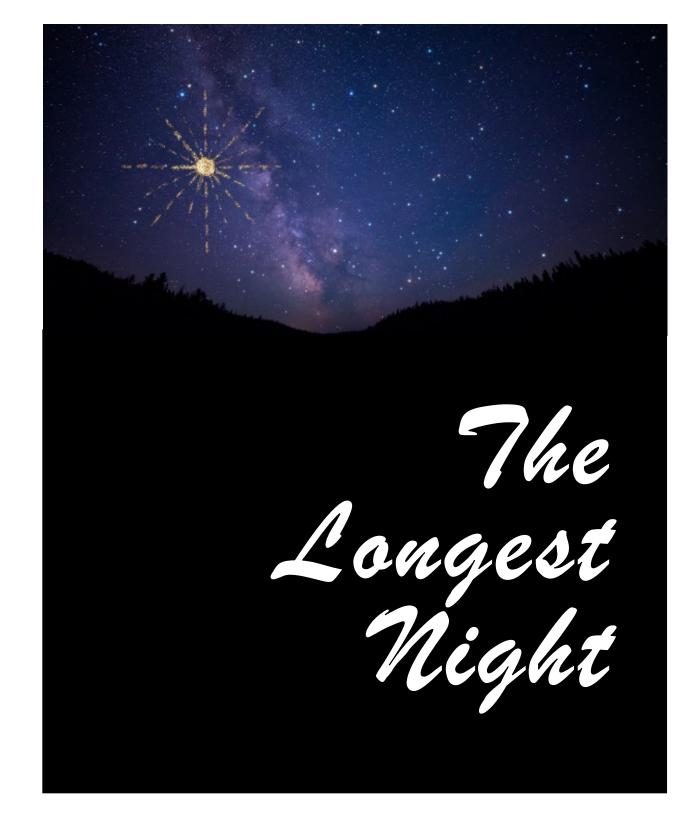
Thank you to all who participated in this service:

Revs Rachel & Josh Young, Rev. Julie Scheer Johnson, Cherie Hankal, Rev. Jo Ann Staebler, Peter Kimmel, Jessie Simpson, Tech crew: Kevin Hutton, Mike Ball





Websites: www.laceypres.org / wpcoly.org



# **G**athering **M**usic

Reverend Josh Young, LPC

"God Is The Friend Of Silence"

### Welcome

Reverend Rachel Young, LPC

## Candle Lighting Reverend Julie Scheer Johnson, WPC

Even through the longest nights, we keep vigil.

When days are long and we grow weary, we keep vigil.

When we're running out of hope,

we keep vigil.

When peace feels like a pipe dream,

we keep vigil.

When joy seems like a luxury we can't afford,

we keep vigil.

When the world is more full of hate than love,

we keep vigil.

When we're desperate for Christ, Emmanuel, God-With-Us,

we keep vigil.

Let us keep vigil, for God is surely with us.

### **Passing the Peace**

Let us now pass the peace of Christ to one another, remembering that each of us carries the Christ-light within.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

### Song

"O Come O Come Emmanuel"

## **S**cripture Reading

Cherie Hankal, LPC

Isaiah 64 (*Inclusive Bible*)

#### Silent Reflection

What is your breathing like? Where do you feel tension? How is your heart?

### **Poetry Reading**

Reverend Jo Ann Staebler, WPC

"Birdsong" by Sarah A. Speed

# Sung Response

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel Shall come to thee o Israel

# Prayers of the People

After time of sharing, you will be invited to come to the Communion Table to light a candle or two to represent the hopes and fears you carry this night. Hold these and the prayers of others, trusting that God is with us in this sacred space of longing and hope.

# Sung Response

Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel Shall come to thee o Israel

### **S**cripture Reading

Peter Kimmel, WPC

Isaiah 54:10-14 (Inclusive Bible)