

12 24 2025

**Christmas Eve
7:00 p.m.**



Prelude

Ross Eggert

Song

Acts 29

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Greetings

Advent Reading

Kim Quirk

The journey began in Nazareth. Mary, you will have a Son. The journey continued to Bethlehem. There is no room at the inn. The journey continued to a field of shepherds. I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. The journey continued to a manger. And He shall be called Emmanuel. The journey is a journey of light. Now the Light is here. And it is the Light of the World. As we celebrate this day, we hope that we may share in bringing His light into the lives of those around us **(a moment of silence enjoying the brightness of the Advent candles)**.

Lighting of the Christ Candle *Kim Quirk*

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, tonight we light the fifth candle. This is the candle of Jesus Christ; the "Son of God." Jesus is the Light of truth that shows us the way to eternal life and the way to a close relationship with God.

Hymn

UMH #234 - O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs. 1, 2)

*Call to Worship

Pat Lietzke

L: The Prophet Isaiah said: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

A: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

L: The Priest Zechariah said before John's birth: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in

darkness, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

A: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

L: The Evangelist John said: What has come into being in Him was life and the life is the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

A: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

L: God is with us. God is coming into our lives in a new way. The birth of the Christ-child is the renewal of hope: a reminder that Christ will come again. Keep watch for the light; it is drawing near.

A: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

A Bidding Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Hymn

UMH #218 - It Came upon the Midnight Clear (vs. 1, 2)

Reading Luke 2:1-7

Mike Blodgett

"1 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to his own town to register. 4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her first-born, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

Hymn UMH #230 - O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1, 2)

Reading Luke 2:8-16

Kim Quirk

"8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." 15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." 16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger."

Hymn UMH #236 - While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (vs. 1, 2, 3)

Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Pat Lietzke

"1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." 3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: 6 " '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 be the shepherd of my people Israel.' " 7 Then Herod called the

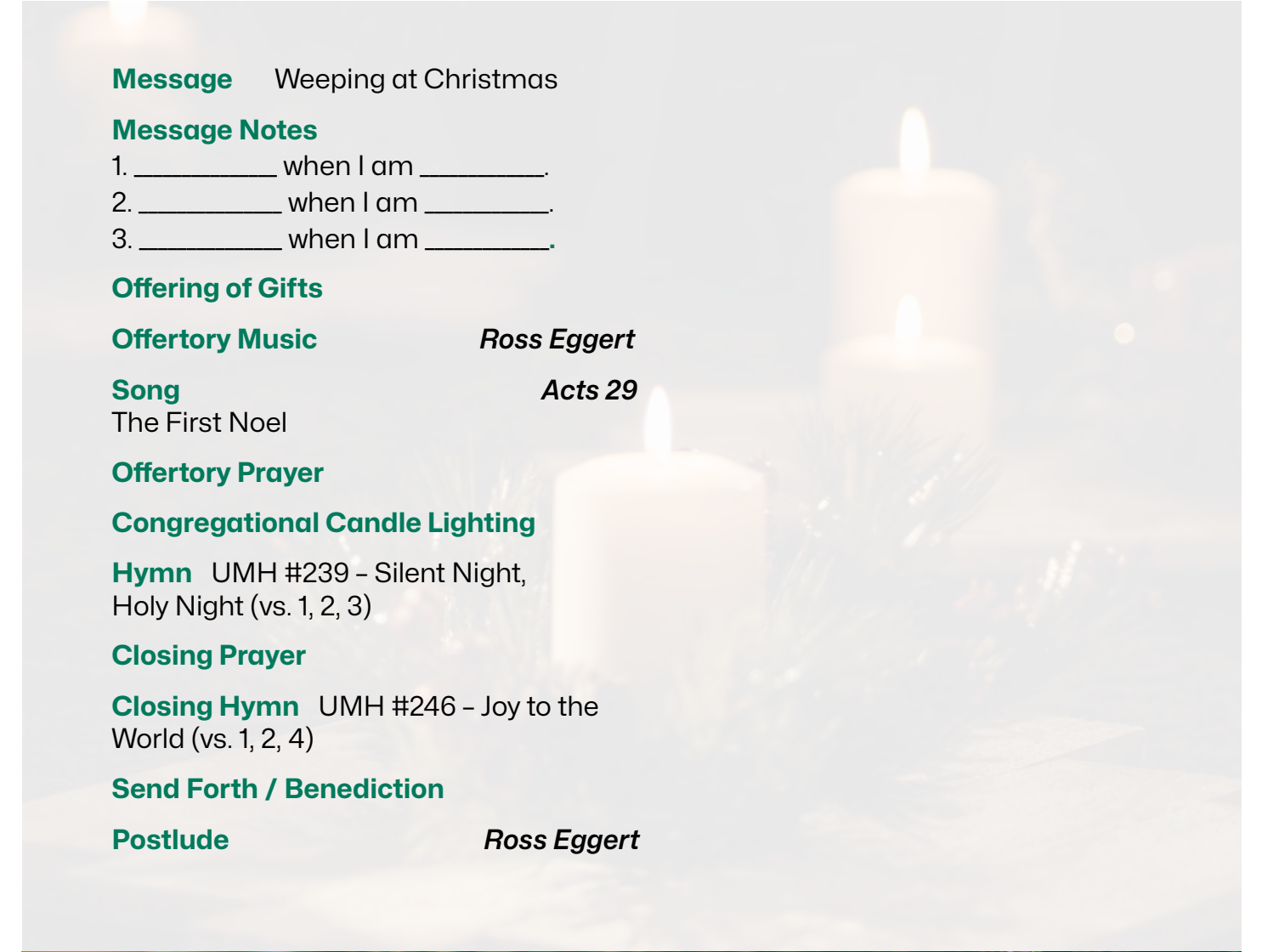
Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." 9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 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 and of incense and of myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route."

Hymn UMH #220 - Angels from the Realms of Glory (vs. 1, 2)

Reading Matthew 2:13-18

Bob Chesney

"13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." 14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, 15 where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." 16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. 17 Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: 18 "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."



Message Weeping at Christmas

Message Notes

1. _____ when I am _____.
2. _____ when I am _____.
3. _____ when I am _____.

Offering of Gifts

Offertory Music *Ross Eggert*

Song *Acts 29*
The First Noel

Offertory Prayer

Congregational Candle Lighting

Hymn UMH #239 – Silent Night,
Holy Night (vs. 1, 2, 3)

Closing Prayer

Closing Hymn UMH #246 – Joy to the
World (vs. 1, 2, 4)

Send Forth / Benediction

Postlude *Ross Eggert*



Special Christmas Offering

The special Christmas offering will be placed in our general fund to meet the many regular needs of our congregations where we have remained behind.

This will help us to finish the year strong and positive financially. Thank you for your willingness to participate in this last effort in our financial campaign for the year 2025.

Thank you

to all who generously shared poinsettias with us
during this Christmas Season.

Blessings

to you and your loved ones at Christmas
and in the New Year!

Please feel free to take your poinsettia
home at any time following the Christmas Eve service.

Kay Crosby

*Given in joyful celebration of the birth
of my great-granddaughter, Georgia
Millan-Crosby on September 15, 2025
in Malaga, Spain*

Linda & Connie Dillman

In memory of family & friends in heaven

Dee Gergens

In memory of loved ones

Sally & Carl Hader

*In loving memory of our parents: Karl,
Evelyn & Lyle*

Guy & Jennifer Hansen

In memory of parents & brothers

Stan & Susie Heiniger

In memory of loved ones

Sue Kennedy

In memory of sister Linda

Pam Kolis

In loving memory of Beatrice & James

Judi McCullum

In loving memory of family

Marilyn Plaistow

In memory of Jack, my brother & parents

Randy & Craig Pierce

In memory of loved ones

Sandy Purdy

*In memory of my husband, Dave
& daughter Pam*

Art Sutherland

Sutherland\Uchiyana

Bill & Carole Tiedemann

In memory of Susan Tiedemann

Ellyn Wagner

In memory of loved ones

Suzanne & Ron Zabransky

In memory of family



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