

The Service of Worship Christmas Eve

*Please turn the sound off on your cell phone

December 24, 2023

3:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Westminster Chimes

Words of Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Leader Welcome to a celebration like no other!

People **This is the night of the Holy Birth!**

Leader On this holiest of nights,

People **we come, joining the shepherds who are stunned by wonder.**

Leader On this most silent night,

People **we come, our hopes and dreams joining those of Mary and Joseph.**

Leader On this night of carols and candlelight,

People **we come, our glad songs joining with the choirs of angels over us.**

Leader Rejoice, good friends, the Good News is here!

People **Christ our Savior is Born! Hallelujah! Amen.**

***Hymn**

[O Come, All Ye Faithful](#)

#234

Lighting of the Christ Candle

3:00 Service - The Foster Family

8:00 Service – Carol Simmons and Robert Swan

Special Music

The Gathering

Choir

Christmas Prayer (in unison)

O God of love, you have brought us together and blessed us with the wonder of your very self. We thank you for the birth of the Christ child in Bethlehem, as announced by the angels on this holy night. Change our hearts from a busy inn to a quiet chamber for your glory. Open our eyes to the light of Christ which glows in the darkness of a world engulfed in apathy, pain and loss; a world separated from you. Guide us out of darkness and into your joyous light. Speak to us now that we may hear the good news of your salvation. May our lives reflect your glorious love, that others may see your Christmas Spirit in us, each and every day of our lives. Amen.

Special Music

Song of the Shepherds

Choir

Pastoral Prayer

Rev McDonald

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Prayer (unison)

Holy one, as we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child, we seek to honor you with these monetary gifts. We know that everything in this world is a gift from you, O God, so we humbly return a generous portion of these gifts to you. We pray that these gifts may help this church to change people's lives and to spread your message of salvation. In the name of the Babe lying in the manger, we pray. Amen.

Special Music Sweet Little Jesus Boy Bill Lewis

Scripture [Luke 2: 1-20](#)

Special Music 3:00 - God With Us to Dwell Choir & Michael
8:00 – It May Be Christmas Cass Schreiner

Message Silent Night? Holy Night! Rev McDonald

Special Music O Holy Night Choir & Dawn Ward

Lighting of Candles

***Hymn** [Silent Night, Holy Night](#) #239

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Sunday, December 31st Services at 9:00 a.m. (Social Hall) and 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Schedule of Our Opportunities

Looking Ahead

Jan 2 nd	10:00 a.m.	United Women of Faith – Social Hall
Jan 2 nd	7:00 p.m.	Deborah Circle – Social Hall
Jan 10 th	6:30 p.m.	Trustees Meeting – Social Hall
Jan 13 th	9:00 a.m.	United Methodist Men’s Breakfast – Social Hall
Jan 29 th	7:00 p.m.	Administrative Board Meeting – Social Hall

WELCOME GUESTS! To all who seek a warm and spirit filled place to worship;
To all who seek a church home; to all who struggle and desire victory;
To all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are tired and need rest;
To all who are friendless and want friendship;
To all who are joyful and want to celebrate;
To all who are grateful and want to give thanks; to all who sin and need a Savior;
And to whosoever will our Pastor and the members open wide the doors of
Glen Burnie UMC, and in the name of Jesus the Lord, says – WELCOME!