

**December 24, 2025**

**Christmas Eve**

**Welcome! We are glad you came to worship with us today!  
It is our prayer that you will be richly blessed as we worship.**

**†Denotes please stand as you are able in praise to God.**

**Pastoral Greeting:**

**First Lesson:**                **Isaiah 9:2, 6-7      Pew Bible Pg.489**

**L: We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light;**

**All: We, who lived in darkness, on us a light has shined.**

**L: For a child has been born for us, a Son given to us,**

**All: He shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace! He will rule with justice and  
righteousness from this time onward and forevermore!**

**†Opening Hymn:**

**“O Come All Ye Faithful verses 1,2,3,6”**

**UMH #234**

**†Hymn:**

**O Holy Night**

**The Lighting of the Advent Candles:**

**Watch and wait for Christ’s coming! We light candles of hope,  
peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with  
prayer.**

**Hear these words from the prophet Isaiah:  
(Isaiah 9:2-3a, 4-5a, 6-7)**

**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.  
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they  
rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest... For the yoke of  
their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their  
oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.**

**For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests  
upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless  
peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish  
and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time  
onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do  
this.**

**We light the first candle in hope. We light the second candle in  
peace. We light the pink candle in joy. We light the fourth candle  
in love.**

**Now as the voices sing from the heavens, God is born among us!  
We light the Christ candle to celebrate this gift from God. Glory to  
God in the highest!**

**†Hymn:**                **“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” v.5      UMH #211**

**Second Lesson:**                **Isaiah 11:1-4                Pew Bible Pg. 491**

**†Hymn:**                **“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”      UMH #218**

**Third Lesson:**                **Luke 1:26-33, 38                Pew Bible Pg. 723**

**†Hymn:**                **“O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 1-3-4”      UMH #230**

**Prayer of Confession:**

**God of Glory, we celebrate the birth of the Christ as a child on this  
night. This is how you came to redeem us, not as a king in  
splendor, but as an infant in swaddling cloths. Just as you have  
changed the world, change us, that we might see your might  
clothed in humility. Help us to praise you, to honor Jesus with gifts  
of mercy. Help us to welcome your perfect love with our love for  
one another. Help us to hear the call of the needy and the cry of  
the world for peace. Forgive us. Heal us. Redeem us. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance:**

**\*Passing of the Peace:**

**Fourth Lesson:** Luke 2: 1-7 Pew Bible Pg. 724

**Hymns:** “Angels from the Realm of Glory” UMH #220

**Fifth Lesson:** Luke 2:8-20 Pew Bible Pg. 725

**Hymn:** “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” UMH #240

**Gospel Lesson:** John 1:1-14 Pew Bible Pg. 750

**HOMILY** “The Darkness Did Not Overcome It”

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Hymn:** “Joy to the World” UMH #246

### **Ceremony of Lights:**

**\*Hymn:** “Silent Night, Holy Night” UMH #239

**Benediction:** Remember: God is *with* you, God is *for* you, God refuses to be God without you. And may all of God’s people say: Amen.



## *Wesley United Methodist Church*

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*“The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”*

## **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**Watch and wait for Christ's coming!**

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