

Christmas Eve Worship
December 24, 2017 – 11:00 p.m.

Preservice

”Joy to the World”
“Rejoice”

Cash Vereeke
McKenna Vereeke

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude / Lighting of the Candles

Greeting / Life & Mission of Salem

*Blue prayer cards are located in the pew racks for you to write and share your prayer concerns.
These prayer cards will be collected during the first hymn of the service by the ushers.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jerry and Ann Frank

+Call to Worship

A bright star shone over a stable in Bethlehem long ago. The light of Christ has come to our world! Joy to the world!

**Angels lifted choruses of praise. Shepherds knelt in humble adoration.
One day every knee will bow before Christ our King! Great is His
righteousness!**

The hopes of mankind for many long years has rested in the coming of Christ our Savior. Christ has come to break the chains of sin and death and set the captives free. Christ is Lord of all!

**How lovely is the coming of Christ for those who waited for Him, for
those who seek him today. We rejoice in His coming! Emmanuel, God
is with us!**

+Opening Prayer

+Opening Hymn

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

197

+Prayer of Confession

Let us together confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name. Amen.

+Assurance of Pardon

+Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Fath`er, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.*

+Passing of the Peace

Special Music

“Still, Still, Still”

Salem Ringers

Theresa Reinhardt and Briana Follwell - flute

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Message

“Joy to the World”

+The Apostles’ Creed (Unison)

(Inside cover of the Hymnal)

Pastoral Prayer

The Offering of Tithes, Gifts, & Lives to God

Invitation & Offertory

“Gesù Bambino”

Joye Brase

+Doxology

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

+Prayer of Dedication

The Celebration of Communion

We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion in remembrance of the love and hope Christ brings to this day and to our lives. Salem Church, as a United Church of Christ, practices “open” communion meaning anyone who has chosen to follow Jesus Christ is welcome to the table by His invitation. Come as you are for you are welcome here! (The center rings of the tray are wine and the outer ring is grape juice.)

+Communion Hymn

“Away in a Manger”

185

+Invitation

+Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**
Open your hearts. **We open them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise

Words of Institution

Sharing the Gifts of God

+ Prayer of Thanksgiving

+Closing Hymn

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

(see insert)

Mindy Mindrup and McKenna Vereeke – Violin

Cash Vereeke – Cello

Joye Brase, Jan Piskacek - Guitar

(After all the candles are lit, we will sing the first verse in German followed by all three verses in English. Note: To avoid wax dripping, lower the unlit candle to light.)

+The Lord’s Prayer (Unison)

(Please Hold Hands)

+Benediction

+Response

“Emmanuel”

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

His name is called Emmanuel

God with us, revealed in us

His name is called Emmanuel

+Postlude

* All hymns are printed with permission by CCLI License Number: 2257288.

+ Indicates where you may stand, if able; **bold print** indicates where the congregation reads.

We, Salem UCC, broadcast our worship service on the internet via Livestream. If you have concerns regarding your image or your family’s image being broadcast, you may want to consider sitting in the balcony, the wings, or the back of the church. Children’s Time is broadcast, so please take that under consideration.

“SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT”

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!*

*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.*

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