



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH
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B4N 3M7



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 25th, 2022, 10:00 am

Christmas Day

Music as We Gather

Gathering

*** Introit:** "Hope Shines as the Solitary Star" MV #220 x1
Christ shines as the solitary star.
Faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

The lighting of the Christmas Candle

*"Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news
of great joy for all the people." (Luke 2:10)*

What gifts does Jesus bring to the world again this year?

**Jesus brings hope for the future,
peace like a river,
joy everlasting, and
love for all.**

Christmas is the beginning of this new world, a better
world, that we are boldly invited to create together
as followers of the Christ child. *(Candle is lit)*

May it be so. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Hope Shines as the Solitary Star" MV #220 x4
With Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, Christ

Recognition of the Land

Welcome and Announcements

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

Call to Worship:

Put your Christmas busyness aside.

We will join with our friends, and worship boldly.

Rejoice as you sing.

We will join as a family; we will worship joyfully.

Give thanks for the Christmas story.

**We will join with this community of faith
and listen carefully.**

Greet visitors who are here for the holidays.

**We will welcome all who celebrate the birth of
Jesus Christ. We will welcome warmly.**

* **Hymn:** "What Child Is This"

VU #74

What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?

**This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. **R**

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him. **R**

Opening Prayer

Rejoice, Jesus is born!

**Celebrate his birth to a humble couple far from
home.**

Rejoice, Jesus is born!

**Recognize this wonderful event, with shepherds
out on the hillside.**

Rejoice, Jesus is born!

**The angel tells of good news of great joy to
everyone.**

Rejoice, Jesus is born!

Listen to the words of the angels, "Glory to God, and on
earth peace."

**We sing,
we praise,
we join with folk
from pole to pole,
from shore to shore to shore,
for Jesus is born. Alleluia! Amen.**

Listening

*** Hymn:** "O Come All Ye Faithful"

VU #60

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the King of angels;

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

God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created: **R**

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest: **R**

See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; **R**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: **R**

Scripture:

Isaiah 9:2-7
Luke 2:1-20

*A child has been born for us
The Birth of Jesus*

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Message: What does Christmas mean to you? Rev Don Sellsted

* **Hymn:** "I am the Light of the World"

VU #87

REFRAIN:

*'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!'
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.*

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way
home,
the work of Christmas is begun: **R**

To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above! **R**

To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
to see God's children everywhere! **R**

To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth! **R**

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory:** "In the Bleak Midwinter"

VU #55 v.4

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

*** Offertory Prayer:**

More than all the gifts we offer,
More than the time we give.
More than the talent we share,
More than the gift of peace.
More than the most moving music,
More than the work for justice.
More than the happiest reunion,
**More than all this is God's gift
of a little child at Christmas.**
Thank you, Loving God. Amen

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** "Joy Is Now in Every Place"

VU #45

Joy is now in every place,
Christmas lightens every face;
now be with us, in your grace,
O hear us, bless us, holy Jesus.

May the star that shone that night,
making your poor stable bright,
fill our hearts with love and light,
O hear us, bless us, holy Jesus.

Through the New Year let it stay,
leading us upon your way,
making Christmas every day,
O hear us, bless us, holy Jesus.

Now and ever may we find
your good news to fill our mind:
peace and love to humankind,
O hear us, bless us, holy Jesus.

*** Commissioning**

This has been a unique year in the life of
Orchard Valley United Church,
and God's love journeys with us.
God's love is our inspiration,
to be God's people in our serving.
God's love wells up inside us,
encouraging us to achieve great things.
God's love surrounds us,
there's no fear that we cannot overcome.
With Jesus on our side,
We will go out with the courage and commitment
to be God's people today, and always.

*** Benediction**

The God of forgiveness bless you,
the grace of Christ keep you,
and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit strengthen you.
Let us go now in peace, to love and to serve.
And the people said ... **AMEN!**

*** Hymn:**

“Silent Night”

VU #67

This week's Worship Service bulletin is sponsored by
Catherine Byers

In loving memory of husband,

~ Arthur Byers ~

and son,

~ Jerry Byers ~