

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.

**THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE SEVENTH LESSON**

Revelation 21:1-4; 22:12-13, 16, 20

**CAROL**

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” vs. 1&3      **UMH 236**

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING (to benefit UM Committee on Relief)**

**PRAYER FOR THE CHRIST CHILD**

**THE PASSING OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT**

**\*CLOSING CAROL**

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

**UMH 239**

**\*BENEDICTION** *All extinguish their candles*

**\*POSTLUDE**

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**



**Unto us a Child is Born**

WELCOME TO CEDAR SPRINGS  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GATHERING MUSIC

WORDS OF WELCOME

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (congregation in bold)

People, look east!

**Love, the Lord is on the way.**

The period of waiting is over! Behold, your Lord comes to you as an infant.

**God comes as a child, so that we as children may go to God.**

The Lord of the universe is a baby in a manger.

**Mysteries and wonders of eternity and time, the one who spoke the world into being cries in his mother's arms.**

Let us draw near and bow down.

**O come, let us adore him.**

Christ, the Lord is born today!

**\*OPENING CAROL** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" UMH 220

**\*CHRISTMAS EVE INVOCATION**

LOVE THE LORD IS PROMISED

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

CAROL

"Angels We Have Heard on High" vs. 1&3

UMH 238

LOVE THE LORD IS ANNOUNCED

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:57, 67-75

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

CAROL

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" vs. 1&2

UMH 218

**A RESPONSIVE READING** "The Magnificat" (congregation in bold)

We are here, the servants of the Lord. Let it be with us according to God's word.

**Our souls will magnify the Lord and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.**

**Women: For God has looked with favor on us, God's servants.**

**Men: For God has done great things for us, the blessed ones.**

**All: Holy be the name of the Lord!**

Mercy is upon those who fear and reverence God from generation to generation.

**God has revealed great strength; God has scattered the proud and lifted the lowly.**

God has fed the hungry.

**The Lord has helped us and remembered us with mercy.**

So it was promised to Adam and Eve.

**So it is true for us today. And it will be forever. Amen.**

CAROL

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1&2

UMH 230

LOVE THE LORD IS NEAR

THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

CHOIR ANTHEM

"One Candle"

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

CAROL

"The First Noel" vs. 1-3

UMH 245

LOVE THE LORD IS HERE!

*The Mystery of Holy Communion*

(congregation in bold)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Christ the Lord is here – born in Bethlehem, born again in our hearts.

**He is Lord of Lord and King of Kings – Jesus Christ, the first and last.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to offer thanks to you God Almighty, Creator and Lover of heaven and earth, who in the quiet of the night in Bethlehem loved this world and gave your son for its salvation. Therefore, we praise you, welcoming love and joining our voices with the voices of angels and archangels and all the company of heaven to proclaim your holy name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious God, in your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became subject to evil and death, you in your mercy sent Jesus Christ, your only eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you the God and Lord of all. He was born of the Virgin Mary, lived and died, stretching out his arms on the cross and offering himself as the perfect sacrifice for the world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, he took bread. And when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me." Therefore, together we can proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

And now as our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say: