

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

December 24, 2019

6:30 PM

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth..." - John 1:14

PRELUDE Gail Rollings

WELCOME Rev. Jason Cashing

CALL TO WORSHIP /LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

One: In the darkness of this world, a light still shines.

All: The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light; those who live in deep darkness, on them light has shined.

One: We celebrate the light of the ages, which the darkness has not overcome.

All: Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!

One: Let us come before God with worship and praise!

- * HYMN #133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
- * A PRAYER OF PRAISE & ADORATION (In unison)

We will indeed praise you, O God, and cause your works to be known. Your mercy and grace shall endure forever. As we obey your commandments and abide by your wisdom, we shall proclaim to the nations how you can be trusted. Upheld by the covenant you established, our feet firmly place on an unshakeable foundation, we enter your presence and give you all the glory!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

A TIME WITH YOUTH

CHORAL ANTHEM

PROCLAMATION OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

- * HYMN #134 "Joy To the World"
- * WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH (from "The Gospel of John", Chapter 1)

I believe that Jesus is the Word of God, that he was with God at the beginning of Creation and, in fact, was God.

I believe that Jesus is the Light of God that came into a darkened world so that, through his light, all people might experience the gift of new life.

I believe that Jesus is Emmanuel, God who lived with us, as one of us, and that, as we trust our lives to him, we become children of God.

In him, we discover divine grace for a fresh start; we find the truth that sets us free from all that holds us back. Until the first Christmas, no one had ever seen God, but, in Jesus, we now know who God is and how much we are loved. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

HYMN OF PRAISE & DEPARTURE #122 "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

