

**We Go Forth to Serve**

**SOLO**

*Oh Holy Night*

Kristin Call

*(Ushers come forward to receive and share the light.)*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

No. 239

*On final verse, please raise your candle as we celebrate the coming of light to the world—Jesus!*

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.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Leader: The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived  
in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**People: We go into the night as those who have seen the Christ Child.**

Leader: Go and tell of the angels' song: that Good News of great joy is here,  
that Christ has been born for all people.

**People: Arise, shine, for our light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

**POSTLUDE**

Lynette Call

**GOING FORTH**

**Acolytes:** Ella Kinker, Maddie Beasley



STEELE MEMORIAL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
December 24, 2022

733 Shaw Street  
Barboursville, WV 25504  
304-736-4583  
www.steelememorial.com

**WELCOME!** We're glad you're here tonight as we celebrate the coming of God in the person of Jesus. If you don't have a home church, we invite you to consider Steele Memorial Church. We gather each Sunday at 9:40 AM for Sunday School and Worship at 10:45 AM.

We Gather for Worship

**PRELUDE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Matt Stead, Liturgist

Leader: Tonight is a holy night: a night of stars and angels, a night of shepherds and sheep, and a family in a stable. Tonight, we celebrate in memory and in hope the birth of our Savior, the Holy Child of Bethlehem.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Let all God's children come to the manger.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful* (stanzas 1, 2, 3)

No. 234

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

All Stars 4 Jesus

**Advent Candle Readers:** Dylan Stead, Lennon Stead, Lucy Stead

**Candle Lighters:** Henry Beasley, Maddie Beasley, Ella Kinker,  
Luke Kinker, Kenzie Fannin-(Christ Candle)

**CHILDREN'S STORY**

Whitney Stead

**\*HYMN**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (stanzas 1 & 4)

No. 211

**CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER**

Liturgist

We Hear and Respond to God's Word

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Liturgist

Holy God, we've heard this story a million times—Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds. We've heard it a million times, but we want to hear it like it's the first. So move among us. Open our hearts and fill them with your goodness. Help us to hear what it is you might be saying to us with curiosity, joy, and hope. This is an invitation. Come be here with us. Gratefully we pray. AMEN.

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY  
MESSAGE**

*Invited Home*

Luke 2:1-14  
Rev. Greg Markins

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Hark, the Herald Angel Sing*

No. 240

**INVITATION**

*Please turn to page 12 in the United Methodist Hymnal for Liturgy*  
Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and who seek to live in peace with one another. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Prepare our hearts, O God, to receive the Christ Child once more. When we are lost in darkness, shine your light into the darkness of our world. When the gloom clings tightly to us, shine your glory into the shadows of our lives. Overcome our fear, Holy One, and inspire us to leave our flocks, and seek the Christ Child this night. Prepare our hearts, O God, to behold your precious gift in awe and wonder. *(silent confession)*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

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." In the name of Jesus Christ, we receive forgiveness, we receive light. We walk in God's light. Amen.

We Celebrate Holy Communion

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- page 13 in UM Hymnal

**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.**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Leader: Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Through it may we await in blessed hope the appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.