

LISBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 24, 2022 Christmas Eve

"I bring you good news of great joy for all the people" Luke 2.10

PRELUDE AND TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

WORDS OF GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On this holy night, we gather:

PEOPLE: to stand with the shepherds, amazed at your glory;

Leader: to sing with the angels, rejoicing in your work;

PEOPLE: to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise;

Leader: to sit with Mary, cradling your love.

ALL: May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy: for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. Glory to God in the highest!

OPENING HYMN *Angels From the Realms of Glory* # 220

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT and CHRISTMAS CANDLES

with *Advent Song* (vs 5) # 2090

OPENING PRAYER (unison) Almighty God, our journey of Advent has brought us to this great festival of Christmas. As we gather tonight to await the Savior's birth, may our hearts be opened to the words you share with us in Scripture and music. May we remember how the prophets foretold that God would visit and redeem the waiting people. May we celebrate

the promise that the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all peoples into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. These prayers we offer in the name of the One who taught us to pray.....

THE LORD'S PRAYER # 895

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9.2, 6-7 (pg. 638)

CAROL *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* # 196

THE SECOND LESSON Isaiah 40.1-11 (pg. 667)

CHORAL ANTHEM *Carol of the Bells*

THE THIRD LESSON Luke 1.26-38 (pg. 56)

CAROL *What Child is This* # 219

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory

*Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

95

SPECIAL MUSIC *Mary, Did You Know?* Barry Doyle, Soloist

THE FOURTH LESSON Luke 2.1-7 (pg. 58)

CAROL *Away in a Manger* # 217

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 2.8-14 (pg. 58)

CAROL *O Little Town of Bethlehem* # 230

THE SIXTH LESSON Luke 2.15-20 (pg. 58)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (insert)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CANDLELIGHT CAROL *Silent Night* (insert)

*WORDS OF BENEDICTION

Leader: Unto us a child is born.

PEOPLE: Rejoice and be glad!

Leader: A light shines in the darkness.

PEOPLE: Peace to all on earth.

Leader: Let all creation rejoice.

PEOPLE: For a child is born for us!



*POSTLUDE

Tonight's Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Don Wile

Verne Smith, Video Production Manager
Debbie Greim, Organist and Choir Director
Rev. Elizabeth J. Bachelder Smith, Pastor

Rejoice



Lisbon United Methodist Church
welcomes, nurtures, and serves
all people
with the love of Christ.

The Words of Great Thanksgiving for Christmas Eve

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

PEOPLE: And also with you.

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

PEOPLE: We lift them up to God.

Leader: *Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.*

PEOPLE: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your loved remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our Sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. In the fullness of time, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior, and at his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the great cloud of witnesses in heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

PEOPLE: (sung response) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem and there found no room, so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born, so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from

slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the spirit.

As your Word became flesh, born of a woman, on that night long ago, so, on that night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my life in the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts of love and grace, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as children of your covenant, in union with Christ's love for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

PEOPLE: (sung response) Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast as his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

PEOPLE: (sung response) Amen.

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS
PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING



Silent Night

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
Host 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!

