

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021

\*RINGING OF THE BELL

GATHERING *(Please take a moment to sign the attendance pad and pass it on to your neighbor.)*

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively):

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: AND HOPE TO EVERY DISCOURAGED HEART!

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: AND PEACE TO EVERY CONFLICTED SOUL!

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: AND JOY TO EVERY DOWNCAST SPIRIT!

L: Glory to God in the highest!

P: AND LOVE TO EVERYONE!

L: Let us sing praises to our God! Let us offer this Light against all darkness!

\*OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE UMH#238

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN

*Heather Connor/video*

\*GOSPEL LESSON #1

*Matthew 1:18-23*

CEB

SPECIAL MUSIC

*All On A Starry Night  
Jerry Gatch, soloist*

Martin

\*A CHRISTMAS PRAYER (as a group):

O GOD OF THE STILL, SMALL VOICE, WHEN YOU SPOKE TO MARY THROUGH THE ANGEL GABRIEL, YOU SAID ... "DON'T BE AFRAID". AND IN THE MIGHTY CHORUS OF YOUR HEAVENLY HOST, YOU COMFORTED THOSE FRIGHTENED SHEPHERDS WITH THE SAME WORDS. THIS WHOLE BUSINESS OF "GLORIA IN EXCELSIS" CAN BE A BIT OVERWHELMING! IT SEEMS WE'RE NEVER REALLY PREPARED FOR YOUR NEW POSSIBILITIES! WE'RE NOT VERY GOOD AT WAITING. AND WHEN THE FOCUS OF OUR IMPATIENCE ARRIVES, YOU KNOW HOW WE REACT. YOU KNOW US VERY WELL. AND YOU SAY, AGAIN ... "DON'T BE AFRAID". IN YOUR WORD WE FIND THESE WORDS ... "PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR". MAY THAT LOVE COME TO BIRTH IN US TODAY. ON THE CUSP OF A BRAND NEW YEAR AHEAD, CAST OUT OUR FEAR, AND CREATE IN US A UNITED VOICE WHICH CANNOT HELP BUT CRY OUT YOUR DELIVERY ROOM SONG ... "GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO"! GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST! AMEN! AMEN! AND AMEN!

\*GOSPEL LESSON #2

*Luke 2:8-20*

CEB

\*GLORIA PATRI #71

WITNESS TO THE WORD

*Sharing the Joy!*

Rev. L. Kim Eanes

\*HYMN OF PRAISE UMH#230

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

PRAYER CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER, THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

OFFERTORY

\*THE DOXOLOGY *(to the tune of Angels from the Realms of Glory)*

ALL CREATION JOIN IN PRAISING, GOD THE FATHER, SPIRIT, SON,  
EVERMORE YOUR VOICES RAISING, TO TH' ETERNAL THREE IN ONE.  
COME AND WORSHIP, COME AND WORSHIP,  
WORSHIP CHRIST THE NEWBORN KING!

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*CLOSING HYMN OF PRAISE UMH246

*Joy to the World*

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand if you are able*