

We welcome you...

*We are pleased that you have chosen
to be with us this evening
as we celebrate the joy of Christmas.*

Our Christmas hymns...

While we treasure the language and imagery of the New Century Hymnal, we know that the words we learned as children are precious to us as well. We invite you to sing the Christmas hymns with whatever words are most familiar and beloved for you.

Please join us again...

Tonight at 11:00pm we will gather for a candle light worship.

Each Sunday morning we gather for worship at 8:30am and 11:00am.

Church School begins again on January 9th at 9:45am.

THE OTHER EVANGELICAL
EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
204 EAST LOCKWOOD AVENUE
WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI
WWW.EVANGELICALUCC.ORG

Christmas Eve 4:00pm
24 December 2010



GATHERING UNDER THE STARS

WELCOME

PRELUDE "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" Traditional
Julie Bardelmeier

"Joy to the World" G.F. Handel
Marie Bardelmeier

CALL TO GATHER

May some starry imperative
lead you to the birthplace of something true,
something wonder-filled,
something that needs you to hold it safe and warm.

May some chorus angels surprise you in the night
with a song unbelievably beautiful
about something unimaginably good.

May strangers wise and shepherd-like
bring you the gifts
which are born of wisdom and vigilance.

May Christ be born to you, be born in you,
be born for a world beyond Herod and Caesar.

- Marilyn Stavenger

ANTHEM "Today A Savior Is Born" Bailey
Children's Choir

THE PAGEANT

INTRODUCTION: From whence our story comes.

HYMN

O come, all you faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come now, O come now to Bethlehem.
Come and behold the ruler of all angels:
O come in adoration, O come in adoration,
O come in adoration: Christ is born!

THE STORY BEGINS: God with us.

HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And with all children now do dwell,
Give comfort to all exiles here,
And to the aching heart give cheer.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come within as love to dwell.

MARY AND JOSEPH: Begin the long journey.

HYMN

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

INNKEEPER: Sends Mary and Joseph to the stable.

HYMN

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

ANIMALS: Arrive and greet the baby.

HYMN

Jesus, our brother, strong and good,
Was humbly born in a stable rude,
And the friendly beasts around him stood,
Jesus, our brother, strong and good.

SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS: Meet along the way.

HYMN

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

SHARING THE NEWS: Shepherds and angels at the stable.

HYMN

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born in a manger, Emmanuel.

WISE ONES : Meet the star along the road.

HYMN

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

THE STAR: Shines from behind the stable.

HYMN

What child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this the angels sing,
is Christ, God's holy offering:
Haste, haste, our praise to bring,
The babe, the child of Mary.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

*The congregation is invited to share gifts
for our shared ministry.*

OFFERTORY

"On This Still Silent Night"

Farnell

Anna Dodson and Baphiwe Langeni

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dear God,
please give to us

the unquestioning faith of Mary
the tolerance of Joseph
the patience of the donkey
the kindness of the innkeeper
the reverence of the oxen
the joy of the angels
the obedience of the shepherds
the perseverance of the wise men
the Christ-child in our hearts today

Heather Johnston,
Shine On, Star of Bethlehem

*HYMN

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!

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE