

It's Christmas Eve. When planning worship, sometimes we think we've got to do something new, got to come up with a different way of telling this story. How can we repackage this text, this message, this theme so that it will break through the ears and hearts of the worshipers? But it is not necessary tonight. See, the new thing has been done. Tonight is about the tradition, about the familiar, about feeling at home in this space. Even if you are here for the first time, there is a familiarity to this night. It speaks to something deep within us, a yearning, a longing, a hunger. Sing the songs you always sing. Tell the story you always tell. Light the candles and hold them up as you sing "Silent Night," just like you did when you were a kid. Just like that.

visitors

We are glad you are here!

Find more information at the Welcome Center.

order of worship 12 24 21

Please follow along on the Sanctuary screen.

» Indicates standing when able

Prelude

Welcome

We connect with each other

Music Ministry

Lighting of Christ Candle

The Story

The Birth of Jesus Foretold
Luke 1:26-33

» Hymn

#218 It Came upon a Midnight Clear (vs. 1,4)

The Story

The Journey
Luke 2:1-4

Music Ministry

Hymn

#230 O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1, 2, 3, 4)

The Story

The Birth
Luke 2:6-7

Music Ministry

» Hymn

#217 Away in a Manger (vs. 1, 3)

The Story

The Good News is Joy
Luke 2:8-14

Music Ministry

Hymn

#240 Hark the Herald Angels Sing (vs. 1, 2, 3)

The Story

Glory to God
Luke 2:15-20

Reflection and Prayer

» Hymn

*We respond to God
#239 Silent Night (vs. 1, 2, 3, 4)
(lighting of candles in pews,
please stand as your candle
is lit)*

» Closing Prayer

We go forth to learn & share

Postlude

» Indicates standing when able

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.

events & programs

altar flowers Thank you to all who generously shared poinsettias with us during this Christmas Season. Please feel free to take your poinsettia home at any time following the 11:00 p.m. service.

charge conference Tuesday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact the church office for more information.

Today

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 5:00 p.m.,
7:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.

Coming up

Holiday Office Hours

Office Closed
December 31

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 5:00 p.m.,
7:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.

December 26 Worship

One service at 9:00 a.m.
No Faith Formation or
Confirmation.

January 2 Worship

One service at 9:00 a.m.
No Faith Formation or
Confirmation.

The Christmas Offering collected this evening will be given to the Mission Outreach Committee to support the eight local missions that CUMC normally supports and that are so important to our community. Thank you for your generosity.

The Staff of Community United Methodist Church wish you and your family A very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

People I met/am praying for

Notes

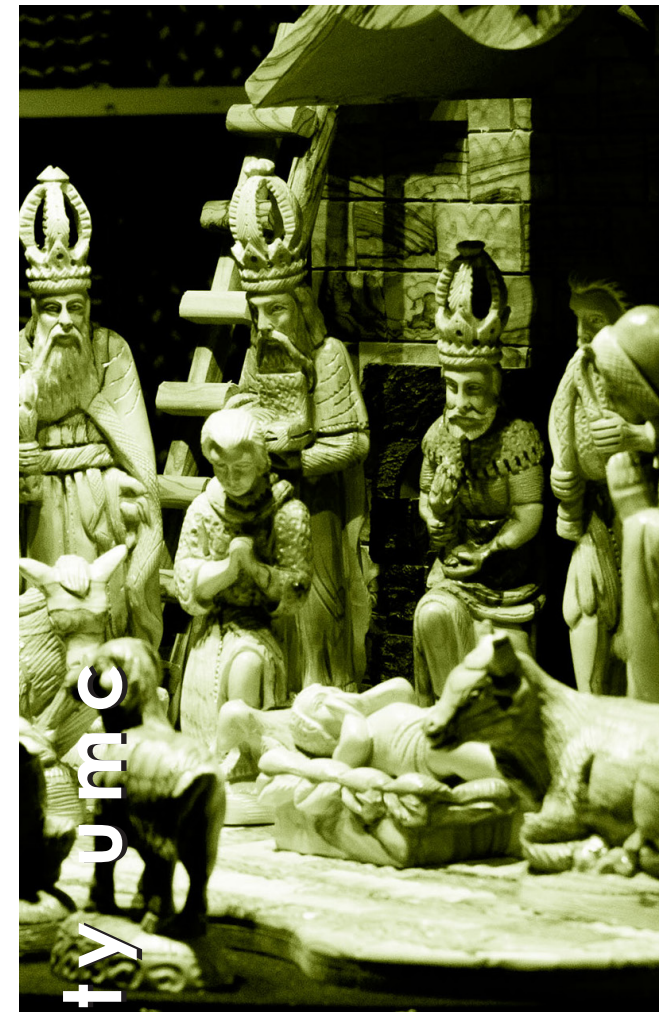
Scripture for December 26: *Psalm 148:1-6, Colossians 3:12-17*

Just don't neglect the story. Don't neglect the hope and the promise and the joy in the one who was born into this world of pain with a message of love. Let the story speak this night; it will do the work the word is sent to do. Trust in it.

connect

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community umc

12

24

21

7 pm