

# Christmas Eve

**Prelude** *Sing We Now of Christmas* arr. Douglas Wagner  
Michael López, organ

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. David Shand  
Women's Ensemble

*O Come, All Ye Faithful* Jason W. Krug  
Chamber Bells

*Silent Night* arr. Dan Forrest  
Chamber Ensemble, Mion Smith ~ violin, Sue Malphrus ~ piano

**Welcome**

\* **Hymn** *Joy to the World*

**Prayer for Christmas** (unison)

Gracious God, we pray this night for all who have come with us to Bethlehem. We pray for those who are poor and cold and hungry like the shepherds, that they may hear the good news. We pray for those who are wandering and searching like the magi, that they may find the place to leave their gifts and their burdens. We pray for those who are busy, hurried and preoccupied like the innkeeper, that they may know the peace that comes from a genuine act of hospitality. We pray for ourselves – we who each need comfort and peace, even joy, in this starlit season and all the days of our lives. Amen.

**Lighting of the Christ Candle** Rev. Mitch Houston and Family

\* **Hymn** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**First Lesson** Isaiah 9:2-7

Minister: The word of God for the people of God.

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

**Blessing of Our Gifts and Lives to the Christ Child**

\* **Hymn of Affirmation** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

\* **Gospel Lesson** Luke 2:1-20

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

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

**Anthem** *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. Roger Emerson  
Chamber Ensemble – Solo- Quinton Busch ~ baritone

**Sermon** “Emmanuel – God Is With Us” Rev. Mitch Houston

**Anthem** *O Holy Night* Adolphe Adam  
Chamber Ensemble, Jacob Turner ~ bass, Shelby Krallman ~ mezzo-soprano

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Music for the Breaking of the Bread and the Taking of the Cup**

*Some Children See Him* Alfred Burt  
Emily R. Bohl, ~ soprano

**Prayer of Thanksgiving after Receiving**

**Candlelight Service and Medley of Carols**

A small candle or glow stick will be given to each person as you enter. If we miss you, there will be time during the announcement period for the ushers to distribute candles and glow sticks to those who have not received them. ***After the singing of “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” – please extinguish your candle.*** After the service, as you exit, please place your candles in the boxes provided. Children may keep their glow sticks.

\* **Hymns** *Silent Night*  
(First verse sung in German by Choir)  
*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

\* **Blessing and Dismissal**

\* **Postlude** *Joy to the World* arr. Don Hustad

\* Congregation stands

*The altar greens are given to the glory of God and in loving memory  
of Julie Nicole Jett by Bob, Pat and Brad Jett.*



Rev. Mitch Houston, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Narcie Jeter, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Mark Barnes, Minister of Congregational Care  
Rev. James Alewine, Pastor Emeritus  
Mrs. Barbara Bassett, Interim Director of Music  
Mr. Michael López, Organist

Bethany United Methodist Church  
118 West Third Street  
Summerville, SC 29483



*The* **LORD**  
*reigns,*  
LET THE  
*earth*  
*rejoice;*  
*let the many*  
**COASTLANDS**  
*be glad!*  
PSALM 97:1, ESV

December 24, 2020  
7:30 PM