

Elkton United Methodist Church
Tuesday, December 24, 2019
Christmas Eve Family Service
5:00 p.m.

- Before the service begins, please give your white prayer request card to an usher.
 - Please see an usher if you would like to have a large print bulletin or hymnal.
 - All worshippers are asked to sign the attendance register. If you are a guest, please fill out all the information. As the register is passed back down the pew, make note of those sitting near you so you can greet them after the service.
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PRELUDE “O HOLY NIGHT”¹ EDITED BY D. BISH

GREETING AND WELCOME

****CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

Leader: Welcome tonight to a celebration like no other!

People: This is the night of the Holy Birth!

Leader: Let the love of Jesus be born in your hearts and spirits!

People: Open our hearts to receive this blessed gift, Loving God.

Leader: Rejoice, good friends, the Good News is here!

People: Christ our Savior is Born! Hallelujah! Amen!

****HYMN #240 (UMH)..... “HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING”**

PRAYER (in unison)

On this holy night, O God, we turn our hearts to you. You are our hope, our light, and our salvation. On this holy night, O God, we celebrate the joy of your coming, and yearn to be born anew. On this holy night, O God, we celebrate the mystery of your coming, awed at how you humbled yourself to be one of us. On this holy night, O God, we welcome the Christ Child: born in a barn among animals, wrapped in bands of cloth, and laid in a feeding trough. On this holy night, O God, we rejoice in your Son Jesus, our Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING..... JOE INGRAM

THE CHRISTMAS STORY TOLD BY PASTOR BUNNELL WITH HELP FROM THE CONGREGATION

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

SUNG RESPONSE #246 (UMH) “JOY TO THE WORLD” (stanza 1)

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her king,
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.**

MUSICAL OFFERING JOE INGRAM

A CHRISTMAS STORY, THE WORST CHRISTMAS EVER

Author, Kathleen Long Bostrom; Illustrator, Guy Pofirio
(The children are invited to come forward for the reading of the story)

**HYMN #230 (UMH) “O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM”

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

**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.**

RESPONSE #217 “AWAY IN A MANGER” (stanza 3)

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever,
and love me, I pray; bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

CALL TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY “GOOD KING WENCESLAS”¹ ARR. BY S. OTIS

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE, #94 (UMH) “PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**HYMN #239 (UMH) “SILENT NIGHT”

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

POSTLUDE “POSTLUDE ON ANTIOCH” ARR. BY G. PETERSON



**Indicates the congregation should stand if able

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal (red cover)

TFWS: The Faith We Sing (black cover) - found in the rack underneath the pew in front of you

W&S: Worship & Song (green cover)

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STAFF OF ELKTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Peggy Johnson, Bishop
Joe Archie, District Superintendent

Karen F. Bunnell.....	Senior Pastor
Ray Graham.....	Associate Pastor of Visitation Ministries
Paul Deemer.....	Handbell Director
Suzette Burgess.....	Choir Director/Coordinator of Music Ministries
Katie Sparks.....	Director of Children and Education Ministries
Beth Gullion.....	Secretary
Laurie Ruth.....	Treasurer
Jason Cornish.....	Director of Youth
Sharon Williams.....	Organist
Joseph Gordon/Donna Horgan.....	Sextons



PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Worship Leader: Nancy Crawford
Greeters: The Sparks Family
Musician: Joe Ingram
Tech Team: TBD