

6:00 p.m. Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Prelude "The Best Christmas Medley Ever" Memory Bells
Arranged by John C. Dare

Christmas Greeting

Lighting the Advent Wreath and Christ Candle ~ The Hendrickson Family

We light these Advent Candles to show that Jesus Christ is our Hope, our Way, our Joy, and our Peace! And we light the Christ candle this night for he has come to lift us up into God's Love! The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it! Dear Lord, open our ears so that we might hear again the angelic chorus of old. Open our lips, that we too may sing with uplifted hearts! Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace, good will toward all!

*Call To Worship

Leader: God commands an eternal Covenant, and sends redemption, redemption to all creation!

People: Great are the works of the Lord, which abound to all the earth!

Leader: The Lord reigns! The Lord reigns! Let all the earth rejoice!

People: Lift every voice and sing, until earth and heaven ring!

Leader: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart!

People: Rejoice in the Lord, O righteous ones, and give thanks to the Lord our God and praise His holy name!

***Hymn** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" No. 240

Prayer (Unison)

Almighty God, out of the tenderness of your heart, you sent your Son Jesus to step in and be one of us. Save us from our fears, that all too often narrow our thoughts and hearts, and keep us from loving. We come to you now, seeking the most important of gifts: your mercy, grace, and love. Help us to come to know you more personally and understand you more completely and

what you have done for us in Jesus. At the manger, you have made yourself more approachable and vulnerable. Thank you. Bring the Light of your Truth into our world this evening. And may we share it more freely this night, and in the years of our lives ahead. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Scripture

Luke 2:1-7

Karen Hruz

*Hymn

"Away In A Manger"

No. 217

Children come up to participate

Scripture

Luke 2:8-20

Karen Hruz

Moment for All Ages

*Hymn

"What Child Is This"

No. 219

Christmas Offering Received & Consecrated

Offertory

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Memory Bells

Arranged by Fred Gramann

*Hymn

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

No. 230

Scripture

Titus 3:4-8

Christmas Meditation "An Eternal, Freely Given Gift"

Pastor Tim

*Sharing of the Christmas Light

An Invitation to Receive Christ into Our Hearts

As we celebrate the birth of a baby and the coming of our Redeemer, we are called to spread the light. We light our candles as a way to help us remember where Jesus is and to help others to know who Jesus is. Receive the light from your neighbor with your candle by leaning into the flame, then keep your candle upright to share with a neighbor.

Christmas Light Hymn

"Silent Night"

No. 239

*Hymn

"Joy To The World"

No. 246

*Benediction

Postlude

*Passing the Peace



We give thanks for those serving in worship:

Music Director: Betsy Smith

Audio Technicians: Michael Duvall and Nate Robinson

Visual Technician: Steve May

Lead Pastor: The Reverend Timothy Carl Anderman

Associate Pastor: The Reverend S. James Mundell

Thank you to the Memory Bells for the wonderful Prelude and Offertory.

Thank you to everyone who made this Christmas service possible.

Thank you to the Creating Spaces team for their work in beautifying our lobby and sanctuary.

Thank you to Gene Aucott for illuminating our way!

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<u>Join us Sundays!</u>

West Grove United Methoidist Church 300 N. Guernsey Road, West Grove, PA 19390 610-869-9334 www.westgroveumc.org

9:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

Childcare and Children's Worship provided