

CROSSROADS UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE

December 24, 2019

Minister & Worship Leader:

Roy Bortolotto

Ministry of Music:

Maryfield: Mary Lou Sweeting

Wawota: Nicki Ford



Welcome

Lighting the Christ Candle

One: Our Advent journey is over. We lit candles for hope, peace, joy, and love. As we approach the manger, we celebrate the arrival of God in our midst, born of Mary and the Holy Spirit. As John wrote in the beginning of his gospel, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

All: We light the candle welcoming the presence of the Holy One into our worship and into our lives. May the light of Christ brighten the days and months ahead with God's hope, peace, joy and love.
(Christ candle is lit)

Hymn: *A Candle is Burning* (v. 5)

Call to Worship

One: Tonight, we gather to share in the Christmas story, to relive the marvel and excitement of a newly born child.

All: We come together in worship to adore Emmanuel, the child of God.

One: We come to experience God born anew within us all. This is a holy night, a night of wonder.

All: With gratitude, we come to worship God.

Hymn: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1, 3)

Opening Prayer

One: God of innocence and love, you came on a dark night to lonely shepherds watching their flock.

All: Thank you, God of the starlit night!

One: Angels' voices rang out over the hills with a story of a miraculous birth and a hymn of rejoicing.

All: Thank you, God of angelic voices!

One: You were wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Your first visitors were animals and shepherds.

All: Thank you, God of the welcoming stable!

One: You brought with you new hope for tomorrow, love and peace for the earth.

All: Thank you, God of new hope! On this night, with all the earth, we rejoice before you. Amen.

Special Music: *One Bright Star*

We Listen and Reflect on God's Word

Stations of the Manger

a) Mary ((Luke 1:26-38)

- scripture, reflection, hymn: *What Child Is This?* (v.1)

- special music: *Song for Mary*

b) Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)

- scripture, reflection, hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (v.1)

c) Birth (Luke 2:1-7)

- scripture, reflection, hymn: *Away in a Manger* (v.1)

d) Shepherds and Angels (Luke 2:8-20)

- scripture, reflection, hymn: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (v.1)

e) Christmas for Today

Offering, Doxology (*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*) and Dedication

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Special Music: *Heaven Everywhere*

Passing of the Peace

Hymn: *Joy to the World* (vs. 1, 2)

Lighting the Christmas candles (Hymn: *Silent Night* vs.1-3)

Benediction

