Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist

400 West Duarte Road, Arcadia, California 91007 - (626) 447-2181 - www.cgsum.org

December 24, 2024 9:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Prelude Seasonal Selections
Mana Tatsuki, Violin; Sam Tatsuki, Viola

Introit "Away in a Manger" arr. Mack Wilberg
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Welcome and Greeting *Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

Call to Worship *Chris Holder, Lay Reader*

One: A child has been born for us.
Many: A great light shines in the middle of our darkness.

One: A child has been born for us.
Many: To establish God's justice and break every yoke.

One: A child has been born for us.
Many: Whose reign will have no end.

One: A child has been born for us, and we worship him together.
Many: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Hallelujah!

***Opening Hymn** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" **UMH #224**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

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.

Anthem "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head" arr. Mocklebust
Carillon Ringers; Carolyn Noonchester, Director

Old Testament Isaiah 9:2-7 *Chris Holder, Lay Reader*

***Hymn of Preparation** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" **UMH #230**

***Gospel Lesson** Luke 2:1-11 *Chris Holder, Lay Reader*

Choir Anthem "Mary Did You Know?" Mark Lowry and Buddy Green
Chancel Choir; Kirk Averitt, Director

Sermon "The Good News of Christmas" *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

Special Music "Duo for Violin and Viola K423" (3rd Movement) Mozart
Mara Tatsuki, Violin; Sam Tatsuki, Viola

Candle Liturgy & Lighting *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

Christmas is here! Our Advent wreath is complete. Tonight we light the Christ Candle, reminding us that He is the light of the world, the center of our lives, the shining beacon of hope for all creation.

Gracious God, we thank you for the light of Christ which shines brightly. May this light shine in our lives so that people around us might see your glory, Amen.

Anthem "O Holy Night" *Susan Holder, Soprano*

Passing the Light of Christ

The light will travel from the Christ Candle to the ends of the rows. Please remain seated. Ushers will bring the light to you. Hold the lit candle upright at all times

***Hymn with the Light** "Silent Night/Peace, Peace" *Rick and Sylvia Powel*

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin, mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

***Benediction** *Rev. Thai-Erwin*

***Closing Hymn** "Joy to the World" *(v. 1)* **UMH #246**

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.

Postlude "O, Come All Ye Faithful" arr. Young
Stephen Cook

Christmas Offering Envelopes are located in the narthex next to the Offering box in the Sanctuary entrance.

Please remember to sign the attendance pad.

Thank you to everyone who ordered a poinsettia to help beautify our worship centers at this special time of the year. If you purchased a plant, or had one ordered in your honor, you may pick it up following this Worship Service. Plants which are not picked up will be given to our homebound church community on December 26th.

The Church Office is closed and will reopen Monday, January 6, 2024.

Merry Christmas!

Ministers: Members of the Congregation
Resident Bishop: Bishop Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank
District Superintendent: Rev. Moonyoung Lee
Pastor: Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Franklyn Shen
Director of Music Ministry: Stephen Cook
Director of the Good Shepherd Children's Center: Linda Brown

Church of the Good Shepherd Mission:
At Church of the Good Shepherd, God calls us to welcome all to a vibrant community on a continuing journey of Faith, Growth, Justice, and Service in the image of Christ.

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United Methodist

TRADITIONAL CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 2024

