

CENTERPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

centerportumc.org

ONLINE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 20, 2020

LOVE

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION (*silently pray*)

J. M. Ferguson

Lord Jesus Christ, come and dwell in our hearts this Christmas, that our home may have you in it and be full of joy and peace. May no ill temper, impatience, envy, or jealousy spoil the gladness of your birthday, but may love shine in our midst, bringing light to all our hearts and minds. Amen.

WELCOME AND BREATH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Christmas is almost here, O God, and we thank you for walking with us, even carrying us. The time of our hoping is almost at an end and the hour of fulfillment is at hand. Thank you for these Advent days of preparation and for the assurance that you are always near, even as we wait for your coming again. Let your Spirit flow through our worship, that we may sense you close to us and share our joy with a world that cries out for peace and love. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Ceremony of Carols”

Benjamin Britten

Kathryn Sloat, Harpist

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Grubbs Family

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER HYMN # 203

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

United Methodist Hymnal

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called, Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called, Emmanuel. (2X)

OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*join in prayer*)

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your precious Son, Jesus Christ. As we sing our praises to you this morning, our hearts are filled with love. We present these offerings to you to spread that love where it is needed most; to those who are sick or lonely, to those who have lost everything, to anyone in need. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Variations Pastorales sur un Vieux Noel”

Marcel Rousseau

Kathryn Sloat, Harpist

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (*join in prayer*)

O Holy Wisdom, speak to us once more about the special love that came down at Christmas. Let us hear how this love was foretold and the miracle given for all people. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

New Revised Standard Version

The Angel Appears to Mary

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

MESSAGE

"Mary's Song"

Pastor Roy

CLOSING SONG

"Mary Did You Know?"

Christine and Philip Jordan

Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?
Mary did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you

Mary did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little baby, you kiss the face of God

Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Mary did you know?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak, the praises of the lamb

Mary did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect lamb?
That sleeping child you're holding is the great I am

Mary did you know? Mary did you know? Mary did you know?

BENEDICTION