The Dover Church

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 - 4:00 PM Christmas Eve



LOEHR

THE DOVER CHURCH IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND SERVICE SINCE 1762

Welcome to The Dover Church. Sunday morning worship is perhaps the only occasion where people of all generations spend time together in the same public place. This is one of our great joys. Different people at different ages worship in different ways. Some are bouncy and some are silent. We ask that everyone welcome each other and embrace these differences.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Christmas Selections

WORDS OF WELCOME

All are invited to join in speaking or singing when bolded words appear.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill toward all.

People: For out of God's own being, Jesus has come to bring light and love to all people.

Jesus is our Emmanuel - God with Us - Come to gather our tears and laughter, our work and play into God's love.

All: Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace and goodwill toward all.

CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

132

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Loehr Family

Reader: Throughout this season we have lived, waited, and remembered the hope, peace, joy, and love of God found in Christ.

Reader: Tonight, we gather together and light candles in honor of the Christ Child.

Reader: With the birth of Christ, salvation has drawn near. God who ordered the chaos of the universe has come down into the chaos of our world.

Reader: The Word which was with God in the beginning came down and lived with us. While we were yet living in the valley of the shadow of death, the light of new life burst forth.

Reader: We light this candle for Christ.

All: On this night, we remember God has come in the Christ Child. The wait is over! Emmanuel—God with us—is coming tonight! May we all feel hope, peace, joy and love on this Christmas Eve—and may we be the face of Emmanuel to those we meet along our Christmas journey. Amen.

| CAROL | Hark! the Herald Angels Sing | 137 |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| THE BIRTH OF JESUS | | Luke 2: 1-20 |
| CAROL | Angels We Have Heard on High | 135 |
| A CHRISTMAS SERMON | | |
| CAROL | The First Nowell | 141 vs. 1, 2, 3, 5 |

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

THE 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.

OUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Jordan Knapick, soprano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CAROL

Silent Night

142

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

CAROL

Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come

134

POSTLUDE

LAY LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

DEACON ON DUTY: Connie Sweeney

USHERS: Ham Hackney & Linda Means SCRIPTURE READER: Daniel Swayne-Gerrish

BULLETIN COVER ARTIST: The Beal Girls

THE POINSETTIAS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN IN APPRECIATION OF THE HOPE, PEACE, LOVE AND JOY OF ADVENT

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Worship Sundays at 10:00 AM. Please feel welcome to join us!