

**Christmas Day**  
**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

**Gathering**

*God reaches out to us and calls us together to worship. Together, we respond to God's invitation to worship and relationship with praise and song. We also respond with a prayer of humility, mindful of our human sins. Thankfully, God forgives us. In response to God's forgiveness, we forgive and share peace with one another.*

Welcome

Prelude

"Christmas Rejoicing"

Arr. Harp

\*Call to Worship

*Worship in a Flash*

Leader: Awake from your slumber.

**People: Christ is born! Alleluia!**

Leader: The angels sing their praises.

**People: Christ is born! Alleluia!**

Leader: The seas roar and the mountains quake.

**People: Christ is born! Alleluia!**

Leader: The hills sing together for joy.

**People: Christ is born! Alleluia!**

\*Gathering Prayer

*Worship in a Flash*

**Almighty God, as we meet this day called Christmas secure in us the story of Jesus' birth. Help us recognize that both Jesus' manger and his cross guide us to more faithful living. Open us to worship today in our singing, hearing, and praying as we celebrate this festival of Christmas. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who gave us all so that we could have all in his holy name. Amen.**

\*Carol #41

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

**Listening**

*God attends to our joys and concerns while we share what's on our hearts and minds in the Prayers of the People. We respond by listening to God's Word in scripture and sermon.  
We continue to praise God in song.*

Christmas Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Word of Promise

Luke 2.1-7

Carol #53

"What Child Is This?"

The Word of Announcement

Luke 2.8-14

Carol #31

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

The Word of Proclamation

Luke 2.15-20

Homily

“The Story”

Rev. Dr. Juliann Joy

\*Carol #29

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

### Responding

*We respond to the love, forgiveness, and guidance we receive in worship by serving God and one another through the ministries of the congregation. We offer our resources and our lives to God’s work.*

#### Offering Invitation

Our God has done wondrous things and has done them for us. Let us respond to God’s acts of love and wonder by offering our whole selves that God’s promises might be fulfilled through us.

#### \*Sharing Forgiveness and Peace

Leader: The Prince of Peace has come! The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*You are invited to share the forgiveness, love, and peace received from God with others around you by saying, “Peace be with you.”*

#### \*Offering

“This Day Is Joyous for All Creatures”

Bach

*Please leave your offering in the plate at the front of the sanctuary during the Sharing of Forgiveness, Peace, and Offering.*

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Worship Sourcebook*

Gracious God, you have shown your great love for your children by using commonplace things for your purpose—water to mark your children, bread and wine to feed and nourish us ordinary people to be disciples, a child in a manger to announce your grace. Take these commonplace things, these gifts of paper and metal and the lives that stand behind them. Bless and use them to proclaim your gracious love, for we offer them in the name of Jesus, the Lamb of God. Amen.

#### \*Carol #28

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

#### \*Charge and Benediction

#### \*Postlude

“O Holy Night”

Arr. Coates

#### Prayer needs for Central members and attenders:

Jean Rice: at Hennis Care Center. Ankle, still not healed, cards welcome

Bill Indorf: undergoing immunotherapy for treatment of cancer.

Cheryl Anderson: strength & mobility.

Charlie & Maureen Cooper: continued prayers for both as they fight infections.

Bev Denholm: Amherst Meadows, 1610 1st Street NE, Massillon, Room 502. Visitors welcome..

Jean Kidd: prayers for continued improvement.

Cheryl Lash: prayers for emotional and physical healing.

David Oberlin: aging & health needs.

Lorna Patt: The Inn at Northwood Village, 5799 N Wooster Ave, Dover, OH 44622 Room 212. Recently in hospital.

Allison Printz and family: prayers of comfort. The funeral service will be on Friday, Dec. 30 at 11:00 am at Central. Calling hour preceding 10-11 am. Luncheon following a graveside service.

Jan Starrett: has been moved to Rose Lane.

Marlene Kanipe: Prayers for healing and recovery.

Mary Ross: ear swelling and hearing loss.

Doris Oberlin: recovering from a fall; cards and visits welcome

Prayers for the Hoover family: Rev. Bob Hoover entered the church triumphant on December 15<sup>th</sup>.