

**Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2025  
3pm and 8pm  
The Babe**

**GUESTS**, Welcome to our faith community. To learn more about us please visit our website at [www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/unionneffs](http://www.facebook.com/unionneffs). Let us know you're here by completing the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you.

### **Vision Statement**

UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and GROWING

### **Mission Statement**

Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future. We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.

***No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.***

***Union UCC is an Open and Affirming (ONA) Community.***

### **Lay Reader**

3 pm- Ron Pope, 8 pm- Claire Kern

### **Sound**

3pm- Karl Klinger, Dawn Dengler  
8pm- Doug Albert, Mike Baer

## **Gathering**

Like the iconic figures gathered around the Christ Child in our nativity scenes, we gather together because we want to know Jesus more as we seek to bring his Reign of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love on earth.

## **Prelude Music**

3pm and 8pm Berceuse

Leo Brouwer

**Mike Baer, Guitar**

8pm One Small Child

David Meece

**Julie Wehr, Vocals with Blake Hoppes**

3pm and 8pm The Drummer Boy

Katherine Kennicott Davis

**Instrumental Ensemble: Lucas Maxwell, Connor Maxwell, Garet Hill, Andy Hill, Justin Bower, Mike Baer, Isaac Brace, Craig Knauss, Brittany Gelb**

**Director: Mitchell Roth**

3pm King of Kings

Besty Lee Bailey

**Garet Hill, Katelyn Attieh, Vocals with Blake Hoppes**

3pm Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane

**Brittany Gelb, Violin with Blake Hoppes**

8pm Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Arr. Meredith Andrews & Jacob Sooter

**Lucy Boyer, Vocals with Blake Hoppes**

3pm and 8pm— This World That He Sees

Robert Kinkel and Paul O'Niel

**Geoff Brace, Vocals; Mike Baer, Guitar, with Blake Hoppes**



# Poinsettia Sponsors

Union United Church of Christ  
Christmas 2025



## *Sponsor*

Madeline Bingell  
Carolyn Barry  
Tom & Linda Anderson  
Darlene & Dennis Kreitz  
Edie & Jim Fella  
Cliff & Carol James  
Mary Bachman  
Jack & Karen Nuschke  
Mr. & Mrs. George Karetzky  
Marlene & Dale Blose  
Ronald & Carol Pope

## *In Honor of*

Daughter, Kay Bingell  
Friends, Ron & Kari O'Brien; All of my Children  
Grandchildren: Emilia, Zoey, Cole, and Emma  
Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren  
Grandchildren, Johnny, Rosalyn, & Adeline  
Grandchildren: Ethan, Clay, Carolyn, & Alexa  
Janice Geider  
Our Family  
Our Grandchildren  
Our Grandson, Alex Blose  
Our Children and Grandchildren

## *Sponsor*

Madeline Bingell  
Carolyn Barry  
Tom & Linda Anderson  
Leiby  
Darlene & Dennis Kreitz  
Edie & Jim Fella  
Cliff & Carol James  
Mary Bachman  
Jack & Karen Nuschke  
Mr. & Mrs. George Karetzky  
Marlene & Dale Blose  
Emory & Dianne Minnich  
Ron Snyder  
Bruce Laub  
Deana, Ryan & Brooke Correll  
Grandchildren  
Bonne E. Herzog  
Ralph & Connie Gioielli  
Donna Christman  
Jana Hill

## *In Memory of*

Husband, Richard Bingell and Son, Chris Bingell  
My Mom & Dad; and Ray Arey  
Parents, Gloria Beltz, Don Anderson, Earl and Gladys  
Brothers, Ernest & Henray; Sisters, Mae & LaRue  
Anna & Buddy Lord  
Parents & Brothers  
Robert Bachman  
James Harkinson and Jack & Mary Nuschke, Sr.  
Our Parents  
Loved Ones  
Parents, Earl & Lena Frantz  
Janet Snyder  
Sally Laub  
Rich Correll  
Grandparents, Gordon & Ruth Rothrock  
Donald J. Herzog and Veronica J. Fabian  
Our Parents  
Margaret Conrad

## *White Poinsettias*

Jean & Robert Heintzelman



# Poinsettia Sponsors

Union United Church of Christ



Christmas 2025

Pamela Kelchner	Marian & Clifford Snyder Family; Mamie & George Hausman Family; Louisa & Elain Kennel
Shelly Hafler	Curtis and Janet Hoffman
Greg & Joanna Zellner	George and Tim Zellner
George & Valerie Borman	Parents: Donald & Peggy Ressler and George & Cleonice Borman
Craig & Betty Knauss	Parents & Grandparents, Brother, Jeffrey Knauss
Rose Horn & Mark Liscka & Family	Jack & Janice Liscka
Julie & Phil Wehr	Loved Ones
Karen & John Harting	Loved Ones
Robert & Donna Grimes	Loved Ones
Sandy Daumer	Parents
Adam Kochmaruk	Dorothy Lakatosh
Scott & Sheila Nagle	Parents: Gloria & Bob Nagle
Richard D. Google	Parents
Debra Grote & Lalik	Marion & Cliff Snyder
Ryleigh, Hannah, and	Ted Minnich; Aunt Mikaela Jones
Raegan Minnich	Parents
Jeffrey Hoffman	My Mom & Dad, and Brother, Bob
Joan Roth	Wife, Diane; Parents, Claude & Florence Solt
Richard C. Solt	Mr. & Mrs. Willis & Ellen Leh
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kocher	Delphin and Muriel Hughes
Martha Bloss	Robert B. Christ
Diana Christ	Bill Ochs
Kathy & Sarah Ochs	Beth Cherry, and Harold & Fern Hassler.
Sarah Cherry	Fred & Ruth Roberts
Randy & Kathy Roberts	My parents, Robert and Janice Herzog
Tami Wassum	Veronica Fabian and Bruce Cesanek
John Fabian	Marion & Clifford Snyder Family; Mamie & George Hausmar Family; Louisa & Edwin Kennel Family
Pamela Kelchner	Harold and Beaty Moyer, John and Ruth Lewis
Carol Moyer & Helen Lewis	Barry L Craig, Donald & Claire Rothrock & Loved Ones
Mark, Lori, & Jacob Klinger	Barney & Anna Reinhard
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Roberts	Parents and Grandparents
Diane Pesola	Barry L Craig
Sandy Craig & Lori	Robert Bachman/Pappy
Erin Vermeulen	



# LUMINARY SPONSORS

Union United Church of Christ

Christmas 2025



Dengler & Pesola Family

Donna Christman

Phil & Julie Wehr

MaryAnn Wagner

Jane Scott

Pastor Kris

Barbara Scheirer

Charlene Shupp

Susan D. Mann

Daniel Topp, Sr

Debra Topp

Ron & Eleanor Kleckner

Edie & Jim Fella

Doug & Claire Kern

Jerry & Nadine Rauch

Wes & Maria Beltz

Karen & John Harting

Lucille Kuhns, Lana Reitz, Leoma Kern

Ronald Snyder

Sharon K. Yurick

Karen Betancourt

Teresa Dalrymple

Emory & Dianne Minnich

Rick & Kathy Bonsell

Parents & Grandparents

Parents, Marvin & Beatrice Christman

The Christman Family

Ruth R. Henry

Robert L. Wagner

Andrews Family

Scott Family

Celebrating Grandbaby Arden!

Grateful for Union UCC!

Sam Flick

Shupp Family

Leonard & Louise Chowansky

My Parents, Herman & Mary Topp

My Parents, Robert & Mildred Hickel

In Memory of Linda Heintzelman

In Honor Of: Grandchildren, Johnny, Rosalyn & Adeline

In Memory of: Anna Lord

In Memory of Paul Fryer

In Memory of Claire Fryer

In Memory of Cinde Fryer

In Memory of Norwood Kern

In Memory of Doris Kern

In Memory of Bob Ehle

In Memory of Claribel Folck

Grandson, Tanner Jay Schell

Grandson, Liam Joseph Grammes

In Memory of of Loved Ones

In Memory of of Gordon & Ruth Rothrock

In Honor of Tracy Snyder

In Honor of Michele Motter

In Memory of Janet Snyder

John L. & Marguerite C. Kemmerer

Robert J. & Craig M. Yurick

Maureen L. Bennicoff

In Memory of Stanley Roth

In Honor of Pastor Kris

Mabel Dalrymple

Loved Ones

In Memory of Sally Kern

In Memory of Ben Kern



# LUMINARY SPONSORS

Union United Church of Christ

Christmas 2025



George & Leoma Kern	In Memory of Gordon & Ruth Rothrock
John Fabian	In Memory of Michael Kern
Clifford & Carol James	In Memory of Jeffrey Kistler
Sharon Maletsky	Veronica Fabian
Debbie Romig	Bruce Cesanek
Marlene & Dale Blose	In Honor of Grandchildren:
Jack & Karen Nuschke	Ethan, Clay, Carolyn, and Alexa
Martha Lutz	Mark Maletsky
Ann Koren	Megan LeVan
Ralph & Connie Gioielli	Amelia LeVan
Bonnie Herzog	Krysta Hankee
Suzanne Lorah	Jackie Hankee, Jr.
Carol Mesics	Loved Ones
Deb & Rich Wenner	James Hankinson
Rich & Barbara Carinci	Jack & Mary Nuschke
Molly & Brendan Cygan	Family & Friends, Past & Present
Anonymous	Daniel Koren
Jana Hill	Our Parents
Debra Ross	Donald J. Herzog
Deana Correll	Veronica J. Fabian
Erin Vermeulen	Darren & Jordan Lorah
Bev & Terry Wertman	Sharon Minnich
Tami Wassum	Grandchildren
	Charles V. Mesics
	Mom, Janice Liscka
	Dad, Jack Liscka
	Our Parents
	Eugene Riley
	Merry Christmas Friends!
	Margaret Conrad
	Doris M. Ross
	Laurie S. Ross
	Richard Correll
	Karl Schaeffer
	Shirley Long
	Robert Bachman
	Mom - Janet Hoffman
	Dad - Curtis Hoffman
	Janice L. Herzog
	Robert G. Herzog

## **Welcome to Union UCC! Welcome & Announcements**

Children and Families: Be sure to get a Christmas activity bag at the door. Merry Christmas from Miss Nikki!

### **Holy Communion**

Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.

Here, you will be served in your seats. Please wait to eat and drink until the Pastor invites you to do so.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray. Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups. Please choose either.

**AT HOME: Please find something to eat and drink that represents communion for you so that you can share in Communion.**

**We often share parts of worship responsively.**

**Phrases in Bold = All Read**

**Phrases NOT in bold = Leader**

### **We Gather at the Scene**

Leader: In 1865, William Chatterton Dix penned a poem that would become the beloved Christmas-time favorite, "What Child is This?" This year for Advent and Christmas, we have been prompted by this carol to ask deeper questions of Jesus' identity, "what child **IS** this?" When we look beyond the lullaby and behind the scenes, what we discover is that the answers are much more complicated than the lilting lullaby tune conveys. The time of Jesus' birth was fraught with difficulties. This is the scene into which Jesus was born. We are called, as his disciples, to enter the scene in the midst of our own complicated and difficult time in history, offering Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love as the Christ Child did.

**What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?**

Leader: God so loved the world that God became us in order to know us, to love us, even more deeply. Not just the cross at the end of Jesus' life, but the difficulty of the time of Christ's birth can show us the reality of "God-with-us" no matter what. This is a theme from our faith story that can open our hearts to see our own place in the narrative of history. No matter how afraid we are, the Babe "whom shepherds guard and angels sing" lives within us waiting to grow into Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love incarnate.

Reader 1: We light these candles for those who need it most.

Reader 2: For all who need more Hope.

Reader 1: For all who yearn for Peace.

Reader 2: For all whose Joy lays dormant.

Reader 1: For all who need the salve of Love.

Reader 2: For all of who need this Child of Possibility.

Reader 1: Our question for this night at the scene of the nativity is this: "How do the messages of this child reverberate into our time, our lives, our world?"

Reader 2: What child IS this? This, this, is Christ the King who reigns with hope, peace, joy, and love forever.

**All Sung: This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

### **Prayer of Invocation**

**Here, at the nativity of your birth,  
give us the courage to face this moment  
with humility and hope.**

**Open us to new understandings of  
the unfolding story of your presence among us.  
Show us the true meaning of the kingdom on earth  
as it is in heaven.**

**We pray in the name of the Child,  
the One Who Reigns in our hearts and lives.  
Amen.**

### **Greeting**

**Peace be with you!  
And also with you!**

Let us pass the peace of Christ with one another.

**\*Please rise in body or spirit to greet each other and for the first song.**

**\*Hymn #193 O Come, All Ye Faithful**  
Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God  
**Instrumental Ensemble**  
**Jacob Roth, Organ**

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!  
O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

**Please be seated.**

**Music Offering**  
3pm One Small Child  
    David Meece  
    Julie Wehr, vocals

8pm Silent Night  
    Franz Gruber, Arr. Sally DeFord  
    Olivia Rice, Vocals with Blake Hoppes

## We Hear the Story

### Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he  
favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## **Music Offering**

3pm Joseph's Lullaby

Bart Millard and Brown Bannister

**Jason Klinger, Vocals with Blake Hoppes**

8pm What We All Want for Christmas is Peace

Joel and Susie Raney

**Susan Glosan, Vocals with Blake Hoppes**

## **The Message**

**Pastor Kris**

**Sending You Light** Melanie DeMore arr. Peter Amidon

I am sending you light to heal you, to hold you.

I am sending you light to hold you in love.

**with Blake Hoppes**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL: 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.**

## **Music Offering**

8pm Christmas Sanctus

Words by Susan Naus Dengler, Music by Lee Dengler

**Adult Choir**

# NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH AT UNION

## Christmas Mission Offering

You can support this by using the Christmas Mission Offering envelope in your envelope packet, or a blank envelope marked - Christmas Mission, or donate electronically by using any of the options below and noting "Christmas Mission." This year we are supporting:

### **HUGS Pediatric Cancer Foundation of the Lehigh Valley -**

When a parent hears the words "your child has cancer," their world is forever altered. PCFLV can immediately step in and offer assistance and support to the entire family.

### **Allentown Rescue Mission -** Since 1900, the Allentown

Rescue Mission has rescued, rehabilitated, and restored men in crisis across the Greater Lehigh Valley. Their approach is both practical and spiritual, meeting immediate needs while addressing root causes through the power of Christ.



Thank you for all the ways that you help us make God's dream a reality at Union UCC.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/home> or QR code. Single or ongoing donation with credit/debit card. Help with fees if you can.

Electronic Giving



**FREE Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app.** Look for our church Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, PA and register your information to contribute.

Vanco Mobile



**Venmo @unionuccneffs** Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?" See QR code.

Venmo



**Cash or checks to "Union UCC"** Place in Sunday's offering plate with a member offering envelope or guest envelope (in the seat racks).

Please reach out to Don Penrod or Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options or legacy gifts to Union.

**Ambassadors (everyone!):** Share our news, events, and spirit on social media and with your friends, family, and neighbors.

That's what keeps us relevant, engaged, and growing!

**Watch for Union UCC merchandise soon!**



**Faith Commitment Cards – please complete and return your Faith Commitment Card by January 18 by placing it in the offering plate, or in the box at the sanctuary entrance, or by completing it with the link <https://bit.ly/faithcommitment25-26>**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

What gifts are adequate for the King of Kings, the Child of Light? Our theme song says “so bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own him.” Whether what we have to give is simply the gift of our presence and gratitude, or if we are privileged with coffers of precious resources, we give what we can. In this way, we “take ownership” of our role in the scene, in the unfolding story of Light in the dark corners.

### **Music Offering,**

3pm and 8pm- Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J.S. Bach Arr. John A. Dempsey

**Craig Knauss, Clarinet and Mitchell Roth, Trumpet,  
with Blake Hoppes**

### **\* Offering Response**

**ALL Sung:**

**This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**Please stand in body or spirit.**

## Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.

Here, you will be served in your seats. Please wait to eat and drink until the Pastor invites you to do so.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray. Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups. Please choose either.

**AT HOME: Please find something to eat and drink that represents communion for you so that you can share in Communion.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is good, Holy One, to give thanks to you,  
always and everywhere.

You created us, you loved us into being,  
you delivered us, and you spoke to us through prophets.  
And then the time came for you to be with us, Emmanuel.

And so,  
with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **Sung Response:**

**Holy, holy, holy,  
God of the heavenly host;  
Heaven and earth are full, are full  
of the majesty of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed the one who comes in the name of our God,  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

## BLACK HYMNAL #795 (Seraphic Hymn)

Mary's boy became a man, compassionate and kind.

He invited all to follow the way of the kin-dom,  
the commonwealth of God.

Wherever he went, he tended to those who suffered.

His own suffering at the hands of the elite  
gave birth to a movement of your Spirit, O God,  
that would forge a new covenant of hope, peace, joy, love, and  
light.

Jesus promised to be with us always,  
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,  
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,  
gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me."

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and cup. Bless this holy feast,  
transformed and transforming, so that as Christ becomes part of  
us, we might become part of him, bone of his bone, flesh of his  
flesh, symbols of God's work in this world. Amen.

### **BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE**

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.  
The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of  
Christ.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are  
ready.

## SHARING THE MEAL

### THE BREAD

#### Music Offering

3pm Christmas Lullaby from Songs for a New World  
Jason Robert Brown  
**Emma Milander, vocals with Blake Hoppe**

8pm A Strange Way to Save the World  
Mark Harris, Don Koch and Dave Clark  
**Abby Kern, vocals with Blake Hoppe**

Take and eat, the body of Christ, broken for you.

### THE CUP

#### Carol On This Day

On this day earth shall ring  
With the song children sing  
To the Lord, Christ our King,  
Born on earth to save us;  
Him the Father gave us.

##### *Refrain:*

Id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o,  
gloria in excelsis Deo!

God's bright star, o'er his head,  
Wise Men three to him led;  
Kneeling low by his bed,  
Lay their gifts before him,  
Praise him and adore him.

##### *Refrain*

On this day angels sing;  
With their song earth shall ring,  
Praising Christ, heaven's King,  
Born on earth to save us;  
Peace and love he gave us.

##### *Refrain*

Take and drink, this is the cup of the new covenant,  
poured out for you.  
May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, keep and  
preserve you unto eternal life.

### COLLECTING OF CUPS

#### Music Offering

3 and 8 pm O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

**Natalie St. Hil, Vocals; Jacob Roth, Organ**

## **Candlelighting**

**Carol** Silent Night, Holy Night  
**Jacob Roth, Organ**

**Please remain seated.**

**Turn your candle on when the music begins and join in singing.**

**ALL:** 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

**Silent night, holy night!**

Shepherds quake at the sight.

Glories stream from heaven afar

Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,

Christ the Savior is born!

Christ the Savior is born

### **RAISE YOUR CANDLE:**

**Silent night, holy night!**

Son of God love's pure light.

**Radiant beams from Thy holy face**

With dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

### **SENDING FORTH**

Just as our theme carol asks, "what child is this?" we, too, have come with our questions this day. We go into the world with answers of Good News, being the Body of Christ through our words and deeds.

#### **We Ask, We Answer**

As we prepare to go into the world, let us ask and answer the question we came with.

##### **What child IS this?**

This is the one born into a time when hope was hard.

##### **What child IS this?**

This is the one whose lowly status would send a message of peace with justice.

##### **What child IS this?**

This is the one who promises us joy even when life is difficult.

### **What child IS this?**

This is the “King of Kings”  
who shows us the way of true love for all people.

### **What child IS this?**

This, this, is the babe whose Light  
spreads through our lives to others and to the world.

### **Benediction**

“This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!”

May the True Sovereign,  
the Child of Light,  
the Spirit of Resistance to Injustice  
be with you now and as you go.

**Merry Christmas!**  
**Merry Christmas!**

**The choir and instrumentalists will introduce the song.**  
**Please be seated until it's time to sing.**

**Closing Hymn- Joy to the World** Setting by Joel Raney  
**Jacob Roth, Organ; Natalie St. Hill, Vocals; Blake Hoppes, Piano**  
**Adult Choir**

**Choir – cue for all to join in singing:**

Let every heart, prepare him room  
Let every heart, prepare him room

**\*ALL – please stand:**

**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.**

**Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:**  
**Let men their songs employ;**  
**While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains**  
**Repeat the sounding joy,**  
**Repeat the sounding joy,**  
**Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,**  
**Nor thorns infest the ground;**  
**He comes to make His blessings flow**  
**Far as the curse is found,**  
**Far as the curse is found,**  
**Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**Merry Christmas and New Year Blessings!  
Enjoy the Lights and Luminaries in the Grove.**

**Postlude Music  
Blake Hoppes, Piano**

**Thank you** to our team of angels and elves for their work in preparing and decorating the church for Christmas

**Worship Committee** – Susan Glosan, Edie Fella, Ron Pope, Dan Haftl, Julie & Phil Wehr, Eric & Pam Minnich family, Pastors Kayli and Kris.

**Sound Team:** Doug Albert, Mike Baer, Pat Sorg, Karl Klinger, Dawn Dengler

**Lighting:** Damon Gelb

**Thank you** to our Poinsettia Sponsors and our Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers and Lorie Hackett for delivery to those on our Visitation List.

**Thank you** to our Luminary Sponsors.

**Thank you** to all who helped to make our Advent and Christmas so meaningful. Thank you to everyone who helped clean and decorate our sanctuary, church, and grove. Thank you to those who served as choir members, musicians, ushers, and worship participants. Thank you to our staff, Consistory, volunteers, and leaders for giving your time and talents so generously.

**Worship Theme: c. Worship Design Studio**

**Worship Design Team: Kathy Bonsell, Claire Kern, Deb Topp,  
Pastor Kris, Nikki Pentland, Pastor Kayli**

**Sanctuary Decorations: Kathy Milander and Family,  
Maryann Puia and Family**

**Outside Decorations: Worship Committee, Donna Christman and  
Teresa Dalrymple**

**Special thanks to Ori Handwerk and Phil Wehr**

**Presentations to the Glory of God**

**Good News Sponsor**– for \$20 help us cover the costs of advertising on social media, mailings, and local papers.

**Children's Bulletin Sponsor**– for \$8 cover the cost of bulletins for children. Send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or Children's Bulletin. Contact Sarah ([administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)) to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.