

Hilton United Methodist Church  
Christmas Eve 2015

Enjoy the Sounds of the Season

*Offered by; Dr. Bob Blackburn, Karen Bernhardt Kuntz, Will Green, Linda Smith, Dr. Hye-Bin Song*

“Run, Shepherds, Run!”

*John Purifoy*

Call to Worship:

Rev. Jennifer Green

*One: Arise, shine, for your light has come!*

**Many: Oh, come, let us adore him!** *(sung response)*

*One: And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!*

**Many: Oh, come, let us adore him!**

*One: And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising!*

**Many: O, come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**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:**

*One: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.*

**Many: O, come let us adore him!**

*One: And the government shall be upon his shoulders.*

**Many: O, come, let us adore him!**

*One: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

**Many: O, come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!**

*One: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy  
which shall be to all people!*

**Many: O, come let us adore him!**

*One: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,  
which is Christ the Lord!*

**Many: O, come let us adore him!**

*One: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!*

**Many: O, Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.

Glory to God in the highest:

O, come let us adore him! O, come let us adore him!

O, come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Lighting the Christmas Candle

**One: Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given!**

*(Light the four Advent candles)*

**Many: God has brought light into every darkness.**

**One: The promises of God are fulfilled! Wonderful Counselor! Mighty God!  
Everlasting Father! Prince of Peace!**

**Song: “Advent Song” Verse 5 TFWS #2090**

**First Lesson: Prophecies of the Foretold Gift in Jesus the Christ  
Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9: 2-7; Micah 5:2; Micah 5: 4-5**

**Carol: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” vs. 1, 2, 6, & 7 # 211**

**Second Lesson: Titus 2: 11-14**

**Carol: “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” vs. 1, 2, & 4 # 218**

**Third Lesson: Luke 1: 26-38 The Angel Visits Mary**

**Carol: “Angels We Have Heard on High” vs. 1-3 # 238**

**Fourth Lesson: Luke 1: 39-45 Mary and Elizabeth**

**Special Music: “Gesù Bambino” *arr. Pietro A. Yon*  
Soloist Margaret Colucci**

**Fifth Lesson: Luke 2: 1-7 The Birth in Bethlehem**

**Carol: “What Child Is This” # 219**

**Sixth Lesson: Luke 2: 8-14 The Angels and Shepherds**

**Carol: “The First Noel” # 245**

**Seventh Lesson: Luke 2: 15-20 The Shepherds Worship**

**Carol: “Away in a Manger” # 217**

**Eighth Lesson:** John 1: 1-5, 14; 3: 16-17 The Word Made Flesh

**Carol:** "Joy to the World" # 246

"A Christmas Creed" *Walter Russell Bowie*

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

**Many: I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world in towns both large and small.**

One: I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

**Many: I believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.**

One: I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible:

**Many: I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.**

One: I confess our ever-lasting need of God:

**Many: The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.**

One: I believe in God who gives us the best of himself.

**Many: I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God, born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the world.**

**Choir Anthem:** "Touched by a Child, Touched by a King" *John Purifoy*

### **Celebration of Christmas Communion**

As you come forward for Communion, please bring your candle with you.

After you have received communion please move into a circle around the outside of the sanctuary and balcony to prepare for the singing of Silent Night.

Words for 'Silent Night' will be projected on the screens.

\* **Carol:** "Silent Night" # 239

Please light the candle of the person next to you by tipping the unlit candle only.

\*\* Battery operated candles are available.

The staff and congregation of Hilton United Methodist Church wish you a blessed Christmas and New Year.

Please join us at 10:00 am on Sundays for Worship,  
Followed by a fellowship time and coffee hour.  
Sunday School for all ages begins at 11:30 am  
Nursery Care available

May your hearts be filled with the love of Christ tonight  
and all through the year. Peace be with you!

Thank you to all who participated in this evening's service.

If you wish to contribute to the ministry of Hilton United Methodist Church, envelopes have been provided in your bulletin. The envelopes may be placed in the baskets at the back of the sanctuary.

The Church Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Jennifer (at the parsonage 392-8094 or on her cell 716-560-5204) or Pat Van Vleck (at home at 392-5744). Thanks!

If you ordered a poinsettia for the altar, we ask that you please look for the pot labeled with your name and take that flower. Thank you.



### **Silent Night**

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 host sing Alleluia!  
Christ the savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent Night, Holy Night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiant beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent Night, Holy Night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Al-le-lu-ia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!

