

Hilton United Methodist Church
Service of the Longest Night

December 22, 2017, 6:00pm

Prelude *Mrs. Christy Sadecki*

Words of Welcome *Rev. Jennifer Green*

Call to Worship

Leader: In the beginning..... was the light of the world.

People: The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Hymn: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" UMH # 230

Scripture Reading Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

Responsive Reading: Psalm 22 *(Read boldface together)*

Leader: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, so far from the words of my groaning?

All: O my God, I cry by day but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

Leader: In you, our ancestors trusted. They trusted and you delivered them.

All: It was you who brought me from the womb, you who kept me safe on my mother's breast. Since my mother bore me, you have been my God.

Leader: Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

All: God does not despise the affliction of the afflicted. God does not hide from me. When I cry to God, God hears me. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 *(read together)*

**The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Special Music: "Evensong" *Mrs. Peggy Colucci*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40

Litany of Remembrance *words on screens*

Prayers of the People

Response: And in Your merciful love, answer.

Hymn: "Away in A Manger" #217

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-7

Offering the Light

Prayer

* **Hymn:** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" # 127

* **Prayer**

* **Blessing and Dismissal**

* Stand in body or spirit. UMH # = The United Methodist Hymnal – purple book in your pew

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21 West Avenue Hilton, NY 14468*

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