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Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship

Leader: Rejoice, for God is with us - Emmanuel.

All: In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light.

Leader: Now there is reason to hope, to be at peace, to embrace joy, and to love.

All: God is truly with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.

Gracious God, with joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time. Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors."

This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem.

All: Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"The First Noel"
Verses 1, 2, and 4

UMH Pg 245

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Howell Family

Special Music

*Hymn of Preparation

"What Child Is This"
Verses 1 and 3

UMH Pg 219

*Passing of The Peace

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-20

Meditation

Rev. Ricky Howell

Service of Holy Communion & 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."

Prayer of Response

Leader: Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks for how you have poured yourself into us this night.

All: We are filled with hope for we have heard angels sing of your faithfulness.

Leader: We are filled with peace for we know you are Emmanuel, God with us.

All: We are filled with joy for we have heard good news of great joy.

Leader: We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God's great love.

May your hope, peace, joy, and love abide in us and overflow out of us as we go forth to shine your light.

All: Amen.

Commissioning & Candle-Lighting

*Closing Hymn

"Silent Night"

UMH Pg 239

*Benediction

*Indicates where those who are able, please stand