

lifeless gods are worthless idols, but the Eternal plotted the vast heavens, shaped every last detail. Honor and majesty precede Him; strength and beauty infuse His holy sanctuary. For the Eternal is on His way: yes, He is coming to judge the earth. He will set the world right by His standards, and by His faithfulness, He will examine the people.

“BETHLEHEM TOWN” Polly and Dave Bertelsen

HOMILY: “GIVE LOVE ON CHRISTMAS DAY” Pastor Clarissa
Video – “Give Love on Christmas Day” Biancha Martinelli

SONG “I Believe” by Lauren Daigle Ethan and Aleah Latham

READING: ‘A VISIT FROM CHRIST’ Pastor Clarissa

Rejoice, for God is with us—Emmanuel. In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light. Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live. God is truly with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

SONG: “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child (x2) Polly and Dave Bertelsen

Few Christmas songs have the power to unite and inspire like "Silent Night." The song describes a newborn Jesus resting calmly in the manger, where all is right with the world. The tune gently settles the Christ child to sleep with sweet reassurances, ringing in peace to a world forever changed by His birth. "Silent Night" is a song that paints a picture of hope for ordinary people and peace for all. Out of all the Christmas carols, this is one that soothes and unites.

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT: UMH 239 ~“SILENT NIGHT”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEH7_2c644Q

BENEDICTION: Pastor Clarissa

May the light that began at creation, continued through the witness of the prophets, and has come to fullness at the Birth of Jesus Christ, be in your hearts and minds this evening. As you go from this place may your spirits be filled with joy and hope; for God's precious Light has been given for you. Go in Peace and know that God's peace always goes with you. Go and spread the good news everywhere! **People: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” Vicki Roth

**On this beautiful day,
May God take care of
all your needs; Touch
you life with joy and
contentment, Bless your
heart with love and faith;
Comfort your soul with
inner peace, and Grant
you good health now
and for always
*God is good, all the time!***



WELCOME:

Pastor Clarissa

Christmas this year might not be what you wanted. Traditions and celebrations may not go on as you hoped. But what if, even in these hard times, each of us would spread the passion and love of Christ on one of the most important nights of the year? Even though we are not physically together, let us worship from our spirits, as if Jesus were sitting in your particular sanctuary with you. Let your passion for Christ radiated from your heart, through your voice, and into the hearts of everyone who witness your gratefulness for your precious gift, Jesus. Thank you for joining us for Christmas Eve on 5th Avenue, where you will discover how the Christmas story can spark delight in our hearts, and how you can spark delight in the world around you.

PRELUDE: “Flute/Piano Duet”

Polly and Dave Bertelsen

THE COMING OF JESUS IS ANNOUNCED TO MARY AND JOSEPH

Pastor Clarissa

(Luke 2:1-7) “In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to his own town to register. So, Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

Video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVxI7U14lnk>) -
“O Holy Night” - Mahalia Jackson

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Aleah Latham

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. (Isaiah 9:2)

Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things; God’s right hand and holy arm have worked salvation. We now light the four outside candles of the Advent Wreath. The first candle reminds us of hope. The second candle is the candle of peace. The third candle

represents our joy. The fourth candle is for love, our love of God, and God’s love for us.

(Light the four outside candles then the center, Christ candle)

We now light the center candle, the Christ candle which represents the life of Christ. The color white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior.

Jesus Christ is our **HOPE**. Jesus Christ gives us **PEACE**. We can have **JOY** because Jesus has come to us. Jesus is God’s greatest gift of **LOVE**. And because of God’s loving gift of Jesus Christ, we have life now and forever. Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you.

PRAYER: Loving God, we are thankful that the waiting of Advent is over. We rejoice that today in the city of David a Savior is born. We rejoice that our hope is fulfilled, and God’s peace has come to earth. We rejoice that we can fully know God’s love in Jesus Christ. Help us to celebrate today and always that a Savior has been born to us. Amen.

UMH 246 “Joy to the World” (3 verses)

Polly and Dave Bertelsen

THE SHEPHERDS FIND THE BABY JESUS

Aleah Latham

(Luke 2:15-18) And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

“What Child Is This”

Vicki Roth

KING OF THE WORLD; RIGHTEOUS JUDGE

Aleah Latham

(Psalm 96:1-6;13) Sing a new song to the Eternal; sing in one voice to the Eternal, all the earth. Sing to the Eternal of all the good things He’s done. Bless His name; broadcast the good news of His salvation each and every day. Enlighten the nations to His splendor; describe His wondrous acts to all people. “For the Eternal is great indeed and praiseworthy; feared and revered above all gods, the True God shall be. For all human-made