# Welcome Home

**COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES** 



South Hill United Methodist Church
December 24, 2021



#### **Entrance**

Prelude

Variations on I Saw Three Ships

Payne

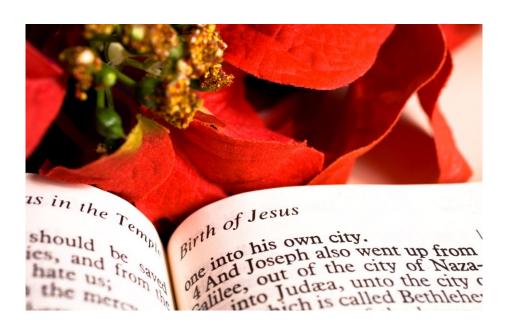
\* Hymn

Once in David's Royal City

UMH 250

\* The Bidding Prayer

Lighting of the Christ Candle



# **The Word**

First Reading	Genesis 3:8-19	
Carol	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jest	us UMH 196
Second Reading	Genesis 22:15-18	
Carol	O Come, O Come, Emmanue stanzas 1, 2, 4, 7	l UMH 211
Third Reading	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	
Carol	Lo, How A Rose E'er Bloomin stanzas 1, 2	g UMH 216
Fourth Reading	Micah 5:2-5a	
Carol	O Little Town of Bethlehem	UMH 230
Fifth Reading	Luke 1:26-38	
Carol	To a Maid Engaged to Joseph	UMH 215
Sixth Reading	Luke 2:1-7	
Special Music	Sweet Little Jesus Boy	Gavin Honeycutt
Seventh Reading	Luke 2:8-16	
Carol	Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	
Eighth Reading	Matthew 2:1-11	
Carol	We Three Kings	UMH 254
Ninth Reading	John 1:1-14	
Special Music	Christmas Eve in Sarajevo	Sophie Crowder

## **Christmas Message**

Welcome Home

### Response to the Word

Special Music

O Holy Night

Elizabeth Black

The Invitation

**Prayer of Confession** 

Lord Jesus Christ, you are loving and merciful.

Forgive us for being so captivated by Christmas that we forget that you, the little baby in the manger, grew up as the Lord over all creation.

It is sometimes easier to leave you in the manger than it is to reckon with your difficult teachings and fierce challenges.

So often we do not follow these teachings, and we do not live up to your challenges.

We need your grace and your strength to follow you more closely.

Forgive us for all of our sins, as we continue to pray in silence...

(Silent prayers)

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ The peace of Christ be with you And also with you.



### The Great Thanksgiving

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 right....

...we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you...

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit...

...all honor and glory is your, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The 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.

Breaking the Bread

Sharing in the Bread and the Cup

Communion Meditation Carol Medley Sophie and Ava Crowder

**Prayer after Communion** 

Lord Jesus, no words can express our gratitude and amazement that you should die for us.

How amazing is it that each of our lives is so valuable to you that you would give up heaven to come and be one of us, ultimately laying down your very life to reach us.

May the bread and wine remain with us as we seek to take your message of love and grace and light into the world. Amen.

### **Going Forth**

\* Passing of the Light of Christ

(The person on the end should dip the unlit candle into the flame, and then pass the light down the pew, each person tilting the unlit candle into the flame as one bows one's heart before God to receive the fire of the Holy Spirit.)

\* Carol

"Silent Night"

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright Round you 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!

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, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Please depart when you are ready and reassemble on the steps outside.

# South Hill United Methodist wishes you and yours a very Merry Christmas!

We pray for you to know Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, in ways that change your life, strengthen your service, and mark you as a faithful and reliable friend in the year ahead.

We invite you to benefit from the fellowship and ministries of South Hill UMC, by joining in our weekly worship services at 8:45 and 11:00 am and learning in one of our Sunday School classes. We hope you will participate in our weekly prayer fellowship, Bible study, and ministry groups.

Communion will be served tonight in a Covid-sensitive way. Each server will sanitize before handling Communion elements. Please come as you feel led by the Holy Spirit to either the front or rear of the sanctuary, receive a piece of bread and a cup of juice. Please place the used cup in the altar rail or empty tray. In the Methodist tradition, we use unfermented grape juice. All who desire a relationship with Christ and fellow Christians are welcome to receive Communion, regardless of church membership or lack thereof. Feel free to spend time at the prayer rail as long as you desire.

#### Our offering tonight will go to United Methodist Family Services.

United Methodist Family Services is an unwavering champion for high-risk children and families in Virginia. UMFS serves children in foster care and children struggling with mental health and behavioral challenges. They provide foster care and adoptive programs, specialized education schools, and mental health programs. Your support of UMFS through this offering will help high-risk children achieve a brighter future. Thank you for supporting this transformative ministry.

#### South Hill United Methodist Church

Rev. Brian D. Siegle, Pastor pastor@southhillumc.org

Phone: (434) 447-4761 Emergency: (434) 878-0855

105 Franklin Street, South Hill, Virginia 23970 office@southhillumc.org
Website: www.southhillumc.org