

CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING
December 24, 2017 ... 10:00 AM

Welcome to our “humble temple” ... on this festive Christmas Eve morning. Glad you are here ... and hope your soul is nourished a bit, sharing this time with us.

We do have a nursery this morning. If you need some help with your kids, our attendants would be honored to take care of them during worship. There is some fine coffee (in Don’s opinion) in Charter Hall ... also a bit of Swedish “glogg” to help boost your spiritual temperature. Welcome ... and a blessed Christmas to all.

a word of welcome ... an announcement or two

OPENING PRAYER

My life, Lord ... can be cluttered ... even upside down and sideways sometimes. This time of the year ... I spend too much time scurrying, and not enough time worshipping. Yet ... somehow, someway --- YOU TOUCH MY HEART.

You get inside of me and teach me ... often without much help from me ... what’s important in life and what’s not.
I know I worry about “stuff” I can’t control.
And I try to “control” things out of my control.

In the middle of all this ---- a manger, a child, a gift, a message of wonder and hope. I see the “circle of life” ... I live in the “circle” ----- saying “good-bye” to someone I love, seeing people grow and change. Some changes good ... others painful.

The Christ-child calls me ---- to look around, and not dwell on what cannot be ... but to be thankful for the blessings coming my way.
Nudging me to share what I have ... so I can make a difference.
Your son is a “difference-maker” ... help me be a part of it.
Amen.

THE CHOIR ... “Rejoice and be merry”

THE LITURGY ... PAGE 98
“This is the feast” page 101

“Hark the herald angels sing” 270

Psalm 23

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, tho’ I walk through the valley of the shadow of death ... I 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.

Luke 2. 8 -20 ... the shepherds

“O little town of Bethlehem” 279

Mathew 2. 1-12 ... the “magi”

“The first Noel” 300

“Are there any younger friends who would like to come forward?” kids’ time
“Do you hear what I hear?” where are the shepherds?

“Joy to the world” 267

meditation

the creed ... page 105

offering and offertory ... “holy, holy, holy” page 108

sharing the Lord's Supper
"Lamb of God" page 112
Communion songs: 277, 288, 294 "alleluia"

closing song: "Silent Night" 281

benediction and 3-fold "amen"

The eternal light shines brightly this Christmas Eve morning ...

**from Vern and Mary Ann Bock, in loving memory of Vern's
mom Ellen.*

**from the Kirchhoff family, in loving memory of Audrey Kirchhoff.*

**in honor of Mary Ann Nelson, Peggy Merker's sister ... on what would
have been her 64th birthday.*

**from the Ruder family, in loving memory of Mark's mom –
Dorothy Ruder.*

**from the Catalano family, in loving memory of Pam's sister ---
Pauline Javorski.*

****Worship tonite at 10:00 pm (open house in Charter Hall
from 8:00 'til time of service.)**

****Worship tomorrow morning at 10:00 am.**

THE LOVE BUCKET FOR THE NEXT COUPLE WEEKS ... is going to the
madrigal singers from Stagg High School ----- the ones who were her
to share the gift of music a couple weeks ago ... THEY ARE SUPER!!

"PACK THE HOUSE" coming up on Saturday, January 13 ... noon at
Marist High School. Special Olympics basketball ... and two of our kids
are involved: Henry Krickl and Ben Fritz. We have won the
attendance contest two years in a row ... one more time? Please rsvp.
Please ----- we have a lot at stake!@!!