

Asbury United Methodist Church

Our vision is to passionately serve in the world because God so loved the world.
Christmas Eve – December 24, 2017 – Liturgical Color: White

Prelude Selection of Carols
Greetings, Introductions, Announcements & Attendance Registration

*Lighting of the Advent Candles Anne Barss, Betsy Vanausdeln
*Hymn **“Joy to the World” vs 1,3,4 #246**

Invitation to the Word

First Lesson Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19
In the Garden of Eden, God announces Adam and Eve’s punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent’s head.
Carol “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” vs 1 #196

Second Lesson Genesis 22:15-18
God promises to Abraham that, by his descendants, all the nations of the earth shall obtain blessing.
Carol “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs 1 & 7 #211

Third Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7
The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people born in darkness.
Carol “Lo, How a Rose E’re Blooming” vs 1,2 #216

Fourth Lesson Micah 5:2-5a
The king is coming and will usher in a reign of peace for all of God’s creation.
Carol “O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs 1,4 #230

Fifth Lesson Luke 1:26-35, 38
The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God’s promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.
Carol “My Soul Gives Glory to My God” vs 1,2 #198

Sixth Lesson Luke 2:1-7
Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.
Carol “The First Noel” vs 1 #245

Seventh Lesson Luke 2:6-18
The shepherds go see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.
Carol “The First Noel” vs 2 #245

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11
The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.
Carol “We Three Kings” vs 1,5 #254

Ninth Lesson John 1:1-14
John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation

Christmas Eve Meditation

The Great Thanksgiving UMH #15 & 16
Giving the Bread and Cup

Please bring your offerings as you come forward to receive Communion. All of tonight’s offering will go directly to ministry. Two-thirds will be given to Churches United of the Quad City Area and one-third to the Asbury Pre-School.

Special Music “O Holy Night” – A. Adam Brian Dennis

Prayer after Communion (Tune: “Away in a Manger”)

*** The Sharing of the Light of Jesus Christ “Silent Night” #239**
The pastors will light their candles from the Christ candle and light the ushers candles. The ushers will light the candles at the ends of each pew. After your candle is lit, pass the Light of Christ to the person next to you by lighting their candle

Words of Blessing
***Congregational “Amen” “Angels We Have Heard on High” v4 #238**
Postlude “Joy To The World” - Handel