



IRWIN FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 25, 2022

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

GATHERING & WELCOME

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Please pass the Peace of Christ to your neighbor.

OPENING PRAYER

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

“Christmas Day is Come”

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Rejoice! Happy Christmas to everyone!

P: Happy Christmas to you also!

L: Christ our Savior is born.

P: God’s Light is poured into the world.

L: O Come, let us celebrate this wonderful gift.

P: Let us praise God with shouts of joy and singing!

ALL: Praise the Lord!

*HYMN No. 246

“Joy to the World”

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1:1-5, 31

PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“O Christmas Tree”

*CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,

Glory to the Holy Spirit, glory to the Three-in-One.

Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,

As we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful heart.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS

SPECIAL MUSIC

“A Hallelujah Christmas” - David Lyons

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-5, 14

HOMILY

“The Incarnate Deity”

CAROL SING

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JESUS

*BENEDICTION

*MUSIC OF PARTING

“Carol of the Bells”

*The service is under the control of the Holy Spirit.
The altar rail is always open.*



God in the flesh! Surrounded by livestock and meager provisions, Mary & Joseph got acquainted with the Creator of the Universe. What a wonder they beheld. Overwhelmed by their journey and harboring questions about the Plan, their eyes roamed over the Babe. He was swaddled in strips of cloth and kept safe in the hollow of a feeding trough. Did the animals creep forward and sniff this new arrival as Mary & Joseph slumbered? Company came in the form of villagers and pilgrims who became aware of the birth. Then shepherds showed up. What an odd occurrence. A new mother and father hearing astonishing accounts of angelic visitation from a group of herdsmen. How improbable. Frankly, confusing. And, yet, Mary & Joseph knew that they knew that they knew that their lives and legacy were forever changed. Messiah. Emmanuel. In their home. In their hearts. Extraordinary!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and
HAPPY BLESSED NEW YEAR!**