

**THE WORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**

All Church Members, Ministers

Rev. Peggy Stout, Pastor

Rev. Jaha Seechang, Lahu Worship Leader

Mrs. Martha Caldwell, Director of Adult Choirs

Marty Light, Organist

Joe Hart, Financial Secretary

Tamara McCarter, Church Secretary

**TRINITY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

217 Second Avenue NE

Conover, NC 28613

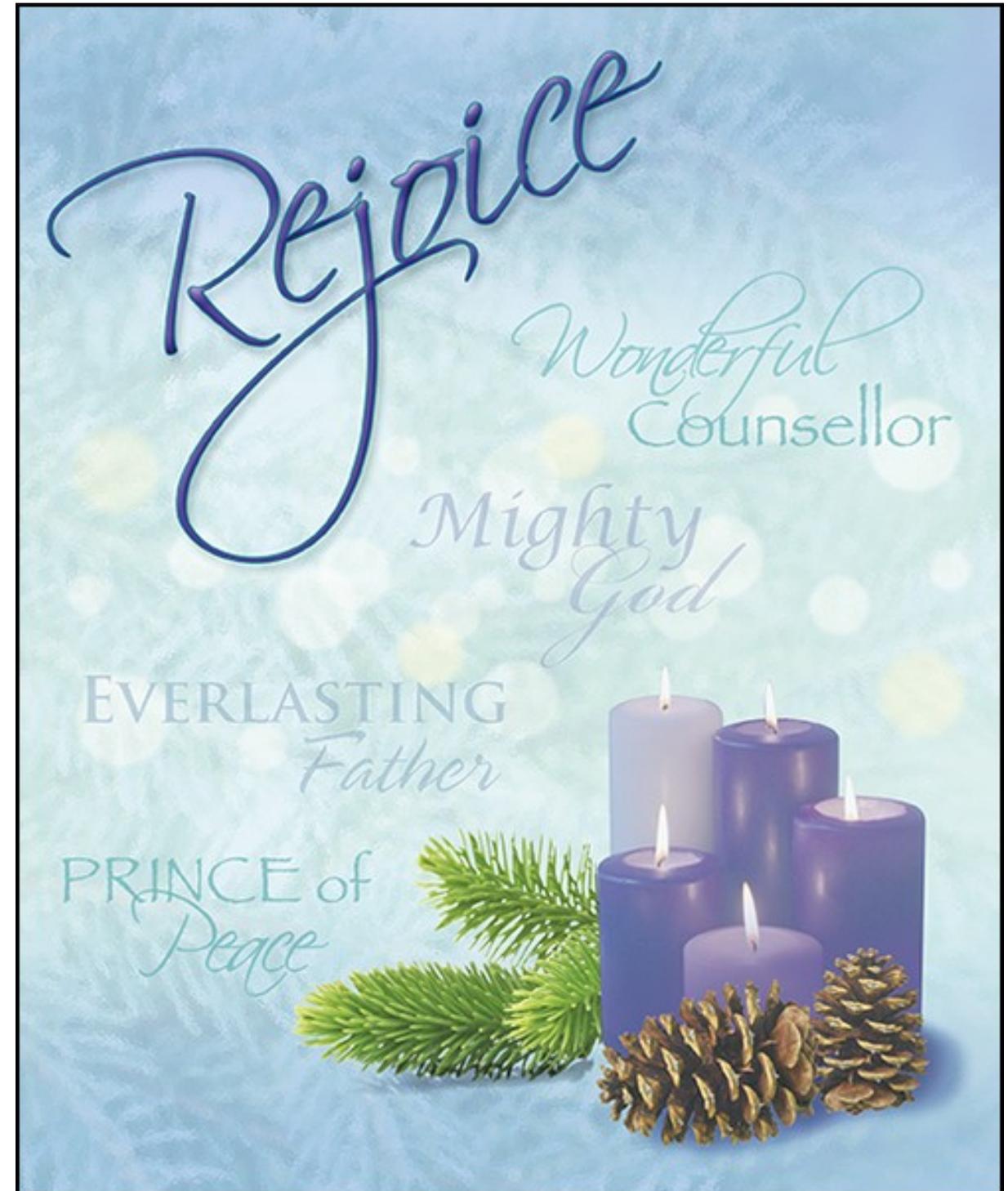
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*Trinity Reformed*  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
December 24, 2019—7:00 P.M.

\*Denotes those who are able may stand

COMING BEFORE GOD

GATHERING MUSIC      *Various Christmas Selections*      Rose Abernethy, Harpist

WELCOME      Rev. Peggy Stout, Pastor

PRELUDE      “*Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*”      by John Schop/arr by  
Robert Thygerson—Marty Light, Organist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)      Rev. Peggy Stout

We gather tonight in preparation —

***for good news is about to be proclaimed.***

We gather in expectation —

***for joy is about to explode in our midst.***

We gather in celebration —

***for we are those people who have said — Yes to the manger, yes to love enfleshed, yes to the one incarnate for others, yes to the wholeness of God.***

With preparation and in expectation, let us celebrate!

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*Responsively*)      Rev. Peggy Stout

O God of the Christ Child, we come into your presence with praise and thanksgiving.

***We hear the glad tidings of the angel voices; we have come to experience this good news of great joy for all people.***

As the shepherds traveled to Bethlehem, we have traveled here—excited, expectant and hopeful. Let the words of sacred scripture seep into our hearts to be treasured and pondered anew.

***For we are here and ready, O God! Let the light of your love break forth! Amen.***



We wish all of  
you a blessed  
Christmas!



**\*HYMN**

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
(Please be seated.)*

#193 Blue Book

The **CHURCH OFFICE will be CLOSED** tomorrow and Thursday for Christmas! Enjoy this time with your family and friends!

**Next Sunday, December 29**, we will hold our regular Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:30am!

**There will be NO “Faith Alive!” Service at 5:00pm.**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Ted & Becky Setzer,  
Eric & Nathaniel Misenheimer

During this Advent season, we have watched and waited for the Christ child. This great light has come into the world and through Him, we behold God’s glory—full of grace and truth. We rejoice tonight with the angels and all of creation at the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

*(Please light the candle.)*

Let us pray: *(unison)*

***God of light and love, thank you for coming this night to us. Thanks for touching all of heaven and earth with your splendor. In every corner of the world, shine with your peace. In every corner of our hearts, shine this night with your grace. Amen.***

**ORGAN MEDITATION**

*“Lo! How a Rose E’er Blooming”* arr by James Manfield  
Marty Light, Organist

**THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Rev. Peggy Stout & Trinity Elders

(The Communion will be **SERVED BY INTINCTION** this evening. All Christians from any congregation or location are invited to participate. Those wishing to receive communion may come to the front by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisles. Please begin with the front pews and proceed back by the side aisles. **(Communion will be served in the pews following intinction for those who are unable to walk to the front.)** As you come forward, you will take a communion wafer. Carry that wafer to the cup and touch it in the juice and consume it as we say, “This is the body and blood of Christ.” Amen.

(NOTE: Touching the juice with your wafer is optional).

**ORGAN INTERLUDE**

*“How Far Is It to Bethlehem?”* arr by David Paxton  
Marty Light, Organist

**THE BIRTH STORY OF THE CHRIST CHILD**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY**

**SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Tommy Simmons  
**SPECIAL MUSIC** *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (Harp solo)* Rose Abernethy

**The Angel’s News to Joseph – Told by Matthew’s Gospel**

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 1:18-24 Shuford Abernethy  
**SPECIAL MUSIC** *“What Child is This?” (Vocal Solo)* Todd Dickerson



**THE POINSETTIAS** adorning the church day are given in Memory and Honor our Loved Ones.

*Please feel free to take your poinsettias home with you after tonight’s service.*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

**The Angel's News to Mary-- Told by Luke' s Gospel**

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38 Stacy Helton  
SPECIAL MUSIC "Holy is His Name" Marty & Kellie Light,  
Kim Vollinger, and Katie Sheets

**The Birth of Jesus Christ**

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7 Kelly Barringer  
SPECIAL MUSIC "O Holy Night" (Vocal Solo) Dawn Kilby

**The Shepherds Hear the Good News**

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14 Dillen See  
SPECIAL MUSIC "Where Shepherds Lately Knelt" Marty & Kellie Light,  
Kim Vollinger, and Katie Sheets

**The Shepherds Visit With Baby Jesus**

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:15-20 Stephanie Anderson  
ANTHEM "The Wonder of the Gift" by S Volkslieder—Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Peggy Stout

\*SCRIPTURE READING John 1:9-14 Dr. Thomas Hamilton

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OUR CHRISTMAS FUND Dr. Thomas Hamilton

**THE SERVICE OF CANDLE-LIGHTING**

**Explanation of the Candle-Lighting**

(The pastor will light her candle from the Christ Candle. She will then pass her light to the ushers. The ushers will move down the aisles lighting the candles of the persons on the end of each pew. Each worshipper will turn and light the candle of the person seated next to them. When all candles are lit, we will sing together, "Silent Night." Please do not tip your candle.)

\*HYMN SING "Silent Night, Holy Night" (see insert) #195 Blue Book

(The Trinity Choir will sing, "Peace, Peace" until all candles are lit and then we'll join in singing "Silent Night". On the last verse, please hold up your candles.)

**\*THE CANDLES ARE EXTINGUISHED**

(Please blow softly on your candle and hold your candle upright until the hot wax settles.)

\*BENEDICTION Rev. Peggy Stout

**\*CHIMES**

\*POSTLUDE "Fugue on MENDELSSOHN" by Stanley Saxton/Marty Light, Organist

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**NOTE:** THE CHRISTMAS FUND (formerly "Veterans of the Cross") is our yearly offering to help supplement the pension and health benefits of low income pastors and lay employees that served the church and our denomination before benefit packages were adequate.

**THIS EVENING'S OFFERING** will be received in offering plates at the rear of the church as you enter or leave the sanctuary. *The offering to The Christmas Fund will be dedicated during the evening worship.*

**NOTE:** Please do not blow out the candles in the candelabras along the aisles or the window candles. The Board of Worship will do this in an attempt to avoid excess candle spray to the sides of the containers. Also, when you extinguish your candle, please blow softly to avoid candle wax spray and wait until the wax cools before setting your candle down. We want to take care of our pew covers. *Thank you.*

