

Join us on Facebook at “AndrewChapelUMCVA” for Sunday Worship. Christmas Eve,  
December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

This Service will also be posted on our webpage at “andrewchapelumc.org”

Here is the Order of Worship for our online worship experience.

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,  
which means, ‘God with us.’”

Matthew 1:23

### ***Prelude Music***

### ***Greeting and Welcome***

Pastor: Welcome to this most magical night when angels and shepherds mingle and the birth of a baby changes the world. We come to celebrate with joy and wonder. We come to celebrate the light that shines all around us. We will sing and praise our most wondrous God. Let us kneel before the Christ child, who makes God’s promises come true.

### ***Call to Worship***

Pastor: Unto us a child is born. Unto us a child is given. He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace.

**All: Glory to God in the Highest!**

Pastor: Come, let us celebrate!

**All: Come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

***Opening Hymn of Praise*** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” UMH #234 (verses 1-3, 6) Text: John F. Wade; trans. by Frederick Oakeley and others. Music: John F. Wade; harm. from Collections of Motetts or Antiphons. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;  
Refrain:  
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,  
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten not created;  
(Refrain)

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;  
(Refrain)

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
(Refrain)

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Christ Candle***

***Response to the Lighting of the Advent Candle*** “Light the Advent Candle” #2090 TFWS (verse 5)  
Words and Music: Mary Lu Walker. © 1975 Mary Lu Walker. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163*

5. Light the Christmas candles, now;  
Sing of donkey, sheep and cow,  
Birthday candles for the King,  
let the alleluias ring.

*Refrain:*

Candle, candle, burning bright,  
shining in the cold winter night;  
candle, candle, burning bright,  
fill our hearts with Christmas light.

***Anthem*** “Angel Tidings” Words: John Rutter. Music: Moravian Traditional Carol. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

***Prayer for Illumination***

O wondrous God of the stars, we come tonight with breathless wonder to see the babe who will change our lives. We hear the names “Wonderful Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Prince of Peace,” and we are in awe. You have touched the earth this night with your unconditional love. Touch us—touch our hearts and minds and souls. May we never tire of this story. May we never take it for granted. Make this night magical again. Amen.

***Hymn*** “Angels We Have Heard on High” UMH#238 Text: Trad. French carol; trans. Crown of Jesus, 1862. Music: French carol melody; arr. by Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937; harm by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains  
*Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo!*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be?  
Which inspire your heavenly songs?  
(Refrain)

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
(Refrain)

4. See him in a manger laid,  
whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph lend your aid,  
while our hearts in love we raise.  
(Refrain)

**Scripture Reading** Isaiah 9:2-7 (NRSV)

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,

and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Meditation*** "A Child Has Been Born for Us!" Rev. Matthew B. Sergent

***Special Music*** "O Holy Night" Words trans. by John S. Dwight. Music: Adolphe Adam, arr. by W. W. Gilchrist. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

### ***Prayers of the People***

***Candlelight Hymns*** \*As these hymns are sung, we encourage you to light candles in your home and sing with us!

"Silent Night" UMH #239 Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; trans. by John F. Young, 1820-1885  
Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin  
mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

2. 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!

3. 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.

4. 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!

*“Joy to the World” Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: Arr. from G.F. Handel by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love.

***Ringing of the Church Bell to Celebrate Christ's Birth***

***Benediction***

Go now in wonder. Go to bring light to those in darkness, joy to those who can find no joy, magic to a world steeped in realism. Go with the songs of angels in your ears, and the love of God in your hearts. Go and spread the word—the babe of Bethlehem is born for all.

***Postlude***