

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of the People – Kelly Harris

Pastoral, The Lord's Prayer (Debts, Debtors)

APOSTLES' CREED (On screen)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Everyone is welcome to join in Holy Communion.)

COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING DRINK

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Because It's Christmas All"

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Laura Doty

Kolten Harris, Liturgist

Cindy Robinett, Piano

Welcome to St. John's United Church of Christ



LOVE

**We are happy to welcome everyone
attending St. John's United Church of
Christ. May God Bless you with His
abundant love.**

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Christmas EVE

Fourth Sunday of Advent - LOVE

December 24, 2023

10:15 am

PRELUDE "O Holy Night"

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING (Responsively)

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The power of the Holy Spirit moves among us!

People: Praise the Lord!

ADVENT SCRIPTURE READING PSALM 5:7

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE – LOVE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Leader: All through this season of Advent, we have encountered Hope Peace and Joy.

People: Today Belief and Love are the theme.

Leader: Today we will hear the story of surprising commitment.

People: We will learn of Mary and God's wonderful love.

Leader: Today we will be challenged to believe in all that God can do.

People: Open our hearts, Lord, that we may be ready for your love. AMEN.

Opening Hymn "Mary's Little Boy Child All"

Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

God of Amazing Surprises, we are rushing headlong into this season of buying, giving, greed, and struggle. We want to think of the holiday as delightful, but we have a tendency to make it a time of the highest stress. The reality is that your love should be our foundation, the base from which we celebrate. Forgive us for our stubborn insistence on maintaining schedule rather than focusing on your love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name, AMEN.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

"GLORIA PATRI"

#623

Hymn

"Silent Night"

German/English Verse 1 in each language

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 9:6-7

Luke 2:15-20 Titus 2:11-14

TODAY'S MESSAGE

"The Wonder of Christmas"

Rev. Laura Doty

DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

"Doxology"

#625