

## Service Of Worship

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 24, 2023**

### **WORSHIP THROUGH PRAISE**

Musical Worship Prelude/Lighting of Candles

Welcome and Announcements

\*Hymn *It Came Upon The Midnight Clear* #93

\*Time of Greeting/Striking of the Hour

\*Call to Worship

Pastor: Let us magnify the Lord; let us rejoice in God our Savior.

**People: Great and mighty is the Lord, and holy is the Name of God.**

\*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Children's Story Time

### **WORSHIP THROUGH MEDITATION**

#### **Lighting of the Advent Candles**

**The Smith Family**

**LEADER:** Jesus said, "I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk-in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

**CONGREGATION: Why do we light five candles?**

**LEADER:** The First Candle reminds us of the hope of the prophets. The Second Candle reminds us of the dark night when Joseph and Mary found light and warmth in the stable as God's love was revealed. The third candle reminds us of the great light and joy which surrounded the shepherds at the announcement of Jesus' birth. The Fourth candle reminds us of the light of the stars in the sky which guided the Wisemen to Jesus and the promise of "peace on earth, goodwill to men." Today we also light the white Christmas candle in remembrance of Christ's birth.

**UNISON: Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him. Now we light the Christmas candle to remember the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As the prophets promised so long ago, you have come to us once again; and with the shepherds, we are filled with wonder and amazement.**

**\*UNISON PRAYER: Lord, you come as a tiny, fragile baby; yet we know that you are God, and you are with us. May the flame of these candles remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk-in darkness, but will have the true light of life. Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.**

\*Special Music

*Wonderful*

Shannon Godfrey

### **WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING AND PRAYER**

Morning Prayer

Special Music

Choir

*Children dismiss for Children's Worship Time*

Scripture

Luke 1:46-55

Sermon

*God With Us*

Dr. Burmahl

### **WORSHIP THROUGH DEDICATION**

\*Hymn of Invitation

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Well Worshippers

Invitation Prayer

Benediction

Choral Response

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

\*Time of Fellowship and Friendly Greeting

\*All who are able please stand

**Welcome!** We welcome all those who worship with us today. If you are a guest, we want to give you a special welcome. If you are looking for a church home, we would count it an honor to have you make it here. A staffed **Nursery** is available for small children through the doors at the front right side of the sanctuary. We have a Children's Worship Time during the "Sermon" time. Children ages 3 yrs. old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade leave following the Offertory.

**Sunday: 10:00 Worship Service.**

**Monday: Christmas Eve Service:** Rev Robert Thomas invites you to the First Congregational Christian Church's Christmas Eve service tonight at 9:00 pm to celebrate Christ's birth with our friends at 1CCC!

**Next Sunday: Communion Sunday and Installation of Officers**

Be sure to check the **Christmas Card Exchange** box located in the Narthex *before you leave today* to get any cards addressed to you.

Today we are collecting the **Christmas Gift for Jesus** special offering. This offering will go toward the updating of McFarland Hall for our youth. You can donate in person, after the service today, or through our website by clicking the donate button and selecting Christmas Offering.

**Membership Information Class:** Pastor Eric invites anyone interested in church membership to our next Membership Information Class on January 14, 2024. The time will be 10:00 am, and the location is the Library. Current Shallow Well Church members are welcome to attend.

**Deacon on Call:** John Godfrey

**Next Sunday:** Dawn Morris

**Greeters:** Faith Tannenbaum, Sammy Poe, Linda Strauch, Audra/Alex McKenzie.

**Next Sunday:** Wendy McNeill, Lauren Godfrey, Beth Haas, Lynn Brey.

 PEACE

# Shallow Well Church

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*“Loving God, Growing Together, Serving Others”*