SIXTH LESSON: Luke 2:1-7Betsy Gutshall Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born. Carol #228 "He Is Born" Chancel Choir SEVENTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-16.....Linda Dinsmore The shepherds go to see the Savior of the World, lying in a manger. Carol #229 All "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" EIGHTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11 John Myers The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews. "In the Bleak Midwinter" Carol #221 Chancel Choir John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation. "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (stanza 1,2,3,4) All Carol #234 INVITATION UMH #12 Pastor Un *THE PEACE **OFFERING** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES *BENEDICTION

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

"Silent Night"

Gene Blackmer, guitar

*CAROL #239

(Founded 1797)

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Central United Methodist Church Monday, December 24, 2018, 7 PM WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Un

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL #250 "Once in Royal David's City"

All

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT/CHRIST CANDLES

Foltz Family

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

And also with you.

<u>(Light 1st Candle)</u>

Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God is born this night.

God's word has been made flesh among us.

(Light 2nd Candle)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness - on them a light has shined.

(Light 3rd Candle)

You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(Light 4th Candle)

He is also called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us. **AMEN!**

(Light the Christ Candle)

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Pastor Un

Carol

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

OPENING PRAYER Pastor Un

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of Your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy, and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem this night fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we share the divine life of Your son Jesus Christ, even as He humbled himself to share our humanity. Amen

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19
Carol #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Chancel Choir
SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18
THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7Bill Bushman The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.
Carol #216 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Chancel Choir
FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9 Ed Pickett The King is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all of God's creation.
Carol #230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" All
FIFTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38

"Ave Maria"

Deborah Reed, piano

Yi-Ping Chen, oboe