

Merry Christmas

God Jul

rohe Weihnachten Glædelig Jul 메리크리스마

Ulassë a Hristomë indë Fällcan! Kristnaskon

# Christmas Eve

Blithe Yule

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Merry Christmas

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rohe Weihnachten Glædelig Jul 메리크리스마

Ulassë a Hristomë indë Fällcan! Kristnaskon

圣诞快乐



Yule

6:30 p.m.

Rev. Melissa Carvill Ziemer

Intern Minister Dave Clements

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent



# Christmas Eve

Order of Service: 6:30 PM

December 24, 2015

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*Please see one of our greeters if you would like to use a set of headphones, a large-print order of service or hymnal*

Music for Gathering	Hal Walker, Music Director
Chime	
Welcome	Rev. Melissa Carvill Ziemer, Minister
Chalice Lighting	Dave Clements, Intern Minister
Prelude	<i>Gloria in Excelsis Deo</i> from Magnificat BWV 243, J.S. Bach Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent Peace Choir
Call to Worship	Elaine Bowen, Worship Associate
Carol (standing)	<i>Joy to the World</i>

*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 heaven, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.*

*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, wonders, of his love.*

Responsive Reading (standing)

by Sydney Wilde-Nugent

We are here this Christmas Eve to be together,  
To feel the warmth of human bodies –  
A reassurance against the cold of this winter night.

*We come to fill our eye with the light of candles  
To fill our ears with the sounds of music,  
To fill our hearts with the wonder of new hope –  
Hope for the love of one another,  
Hope for peace on earth with good will toward all.*

Give us this night that inner peace which comes  
from the knowledge that we are not alone.

*But that we are here, together,  
sharing common hopes,  
common dreams,  
common promises.*

Give us this night the joy and wonder  
which fill our souls with the knowledge  
That we are a part of the interweaving patterns of the human and divine

*Each of us a spark of light in the Universe*

Together, a brilliance which calls forth the promise of Bethlehem

*Together, may we find the courage to realize that promise. So Be It.  
Amen*

Story for All Ages

adapted from  
*The Greatest Gift: The Story of the Other Wise Man*  
Susan Summers

Musical Interlude

*Still, Still, Still*  
trad. German carol, arr. Cathy Moglebust  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent Tone Chimers

Lesson

*The Queens Came Late*, Norma Farber

Carol (standing)

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

First verse played by the bell choir

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!*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see?  
What glad tidings did you hear?*

Refrain

Lesson

from *Matthew 1 and 2*  
DK, *The Children's Illustrated Bible*

Carol (seated)

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

*We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.*

Refrain: *O star of wonder, star of light,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

*Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain  
gold I bring to crown him again  
love forever, ceasing never  
in our hearts to reign*

Refrain

Lesson

from *Luke 2*  
DK, *The Children's Illustrated Bible*

Carol (standing)

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*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.*

*Lo, humble shepherds,  
hasting to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks in the fields, draw near.  
We, too, with gladness,  
thither bend our footsteps;*

Refrain

*Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
"Glory to God,  
all glory in the highest!"*

Refrain

Lesson

*Christmas in July*  
Dave Clements

Anthem

Choral Meditation on *The Holly and the Ivy*  
Daniel Godsil  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent Peace Choir

Reflection

Rev. Melissa Carvill Ziemer

Offering

For Christmas the undesignated offerings will go to the Community Action Council's Emergency Weatherization Fund. Please make all checks payable to the UU Church of Kent and indicate on the memo line that the check is for the Community Action Council Emergency Energy Conservation Fund or, use a Pew Envelope and check the Special Offering box on the envelope. If your offering is intended as a pledge payment, please write pledge on the memo line. Thank you.

Offertory

*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*  
arr. by Jerome Epstein  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent Peace Choir  
with members of the Fallow Time Folk Orchestra

Lesson

*The Work of Christmas*  
Howard Thurman

Lighting of the Candles

*Dona Nobis Pacem*, traditional canon

Please remain seated and use caution while lighting the candles. Hold your candle upright, allowing the person with the unlit candle to dip into your flame. You are welcome to take the candles home with you to enjoy again, or you may deposit them in the boxes by the sanctuary doors as you leave.

Prayer

Silence

Carol (seated)

*Silent Night*

*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.*

*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!*

*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!*

*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.*

Benediction

Libbie D. Stoddard

Postlude

*Joy to the World*, reprise

*Next Sunday, December 27: Simple Peace  
Led by Rev. Melissa Carvill Ziemer and Worship Associate Justin Czekaj*



**VISITORS** - Welcome! We are glad you are here. Thank you for participating in worship with us today. We hope that you will find a spiritual home here and that you will be enriched in the liberal religious practice and heritage of Unitarian Universalism. The members of this church take pride in the fact that we embrace people of all races, ethnicities, ages, creeds, sexual orientations, and abilities. In addition, we are a “Welcoming Congregation,” which means that we have taken part in a special program, designed by the UUA, for congregations that see a need to become more inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people. This congregation is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The principles and purposes of the UUA, which we “covenant to affirm and promote,” can be found in the front of the hymnal, on the UUA website ([www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)), and on bookmarks available in the front entryway.

***We are concerned about everyone’s safety.***

If we need to evacuate the building for a fire drill or for any other reason, please follow the directions of the worship leader. Parents and guardians should look for their children on the grassy area behind the annex and should not go to the classrooms. People with mobility concerns or other special needs should proceed to the Founders’ Lounge where evacuation assistance will be available.

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**SUNDAY SERVICES – 9:45 and 11:30 AM**

**CHURCH STAFF**

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