

# The Mystery, the Magic, and the Music

### Order of Service

December 24, 2023

Christmas Eve was a night of song that wrapped itself about you like a shawl. But it warmed more than your body. It warmed your heart...filled it, too, with a melody that would last forever.

—Bess Streeter Aldrich, Song of Years

### Gathering

Music for Gathering

Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella arr. Luther Henderson

Huron Carol, arr. Luther Henderson

Silver Bells, music by Jay Livingston & Ray Evans performed by the Tarnished Brass

Welcome

Rev. Steven Protzman, Minister

Prelude

I Saw Three Ships, arr. Luther Henderson performed by the Tarnished Brass

Call to Worship

Heidi Shaffer Bish, Worship Associate

Processional Hymn

#253 O Come, All Ye Faithful

led by Kent UU Peace Chorus with Vincent Swango, oboe

# Chalice Lighting

As a sign of the love that brings us together
As a symbol of this season's message of hope
As a witness to the light of truth within and among us
With a joyful spirit on this shining night
We kindle our Christmas flame.

Chalice Lighting Hymn

#224 Let Christmas Come (set to Old Hundredth) led by Diane Cardew with Rebekah Swango, flute

# Reflecting

Holding One Another in Care and Compassion

A time of silence, sharing our sorrows and losses, pastoral prayer, and sharing our joys, wonder and awe

Music Meditation

In the Bleak Midwinter, by Gustav Holst performed by the Tarnished Brass

Reading The Moment of Magic by Rev. Victoria Safford

Carol Watts Cradle Hymn, traditional, arr. by Peter Amidon

Kent UU Peace Chorus

featuring sopranos: Renee Ruchotzke, Beth Wills, and Holly Wickersham

Vanessa Vesely, piano

Reading Another Star, Another Night

by Richard S. Gilbert

David Weaver, Worship Associate

Carol #246 O Little Town of Bethlehem

led by Diana and Dave Watt with Rebekah Swango, flute

Reading We Have an Old Story to Tell

by Rev. Gretchen S. Haley

Carol #228 Once in Royal David's City

led by Lee Brooker with Vincent Swango, oboe

Homily The Mystery, the Magic, and the Music

Rev. Steven Protzman

Offering The Carol of the Birds, traditional Catalonian Carol

words by Peter Schickele

Vanessa Vesely, piano and Emily Hall, vocals

Lighting of the Candles

Please keep lit candles upright and tip the unlighted candle into the lit candle.

Song of Peace #388 Dona Nobis Pacem

Reading The Gospel of Luke
Brad Bolton, guitar

Hymn #251 Silent Night

#### Returning

Extinguishing the Chalice and our candles

We extinguish these flames but not the light of truth, the spirit of joy, the warmth of community, or the fire of Christmas hope May we carry these in our hearts and minds until we are together again.

Benediction

Postlude Go Tell It On the Mountain, arr. Luther Henderson performed by the Tarnished Brass

## Next Sunday, December 31, 2023 New Year. New Intention Led by Ginny Horvath and Worship Associate CLM Lori Mirkin-McGee

Activities & Events: Dec. 24-31, 2023

kentuu.org/news/announcements-events https://kentuu.org/calendar

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Dec. 24	Sunday	Dec. 28	<u>Thursday</u>
10:00 AM	Community Christmas	1:15 PM	Hobbs Hall Reserved
6:30 PM	Christmas Candlelight Service	7:00 PM	Community Sing
7:30 PM 8:30 PM	Fellowship Hour Christmas Candlelight Service	Dec. 29	Friday
Dec. 25	Monday Christmas	Dec. 30	Saturday
	Church Closed	8:00 AM	Rental - Hobbs Hall Reserved
	3.18.10.1.0.000	3:00 PM	Rental - Hobbs Hall Reserved
Dec. 26	<u>Tuesday</u>		
	Church Office Closed	Dec. 31	Sunday
		10:00 AM	Worship
	Wednesday	11:00 AM	Social Hour

Church Address: Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

228 Gougler Avenue, Kent. OH 44240.

Office - 330.673.4247

Knitting, Crochet, Needle Point

Email - churchoffice@kentuu.org On the web – https://kentuu.org

Facebook - www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent

Church Office: The church office is located in the Eldredge Annex

(yellow house) next to the church building

#### **CHURCH STAFF**

4:30 PM

Minister Congregational Administrator Dir. of Religious Education Transitional Music Director Accompanist Campus Use Manager

Nursery Staff Sexton Tech Manager

Affiliated Community Minister Affiliated Community Minister Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM) Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM)

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023 - 2024**

**Board Moderator** Board Asst. Moderator Board Co-Secretary **Board Co-Secretary** 

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Kara Kramer Ginny Horvath Susanna Smart Carol Weigand Heidi Shaffer Bish Kay Eckman

David Weaver

Visit our website.

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# #253 O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,

Come and behold him, born the King of angels; venite, adoremus, Dominum.
[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; venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus, Dominum. [O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.]

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus,
venite, adoremus, Dominum.
[O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.]

### #224 Let Christmas Come

Let Christmas come, its story told, when days are short and winds are cold; let Christmas come, its lovely song, when evening's soon and night is long.

Let Christmas come, its great star glow, on quiet city, parks of snow; let Christmas come, its table gleam, love born again: the truth of dream.



### #246 O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in they dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.

Let praises ring: from God they bring goodwill to all on earth.

How silently, how silently the wonder is made known, while God imparts to human hearts the gift that is our own.

No ear may hear that coming, but in this worldly din, where souls are truly humble, then the dear babe rests within.



# #228 Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed; so may we when life turns hard find in love our stay and guard.

Shepherds came to see this wonder, and to kneel in holy awe at that lowly stable manger where the infant lay on straw; so may we this happy morn honor every child that's born.

From afar three magi journeyed to that stable rude and bare, to pay homage to the infant, offering gifts both rich and rare; so may we our gifts bestow, whether we be high or low.

In that happy Christmas spirit, hear the angels from on high sing their ancient salutations: joy's a gift you cannot buy. So may we with heart that sings, share the truth this season brings.





### #388 Dona Nobis Pacem

Dona nobis pacem, pacem; dona nobis pacem. Dona nobis pacem; dona nobis pacem. Dona nobis pacem; dona nobis pacem.

# #251 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," sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, child of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.



### **Tarnished Brass Musicians**

Jennifer May, Trumpet
Rev. Christie Anderson, Aerophone (dba Trumpet)
Don Easterling, French Horn
Dave Watt, Trombone
Randy Ruchotzke, Tuba