



# Mt Vernon UMC

December 24, 2023

Christmas Eve

# OPENING PRAYER

## \*PRELUDE - 706

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King,  
Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King.  
Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King,  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, We are going to see the King.

## \*LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLES - 2090

## \*CAROL - 245, The First Noel, v1-2

## FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:8–15, 17–19

God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

## SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15–18

God promises to Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of the earth shall obtain blessing.

## CAROL - 211 O Come, Emmanuel v1,2,4,7

## THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

## FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1–4a, 6–9

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

## FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26–35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.

## SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1–7

Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

## MUSIC - Still, Still, Still

*Katie Stout*

## SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8–16

The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.

**CAROL - 240 Hark the Herald Angels Sing, v1**

## EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1–11

The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

**CAROL - 254 We Three Kings**

## NINTH LESSON - John 1:1–14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

**\*CAROL - 239 Silent Night, Holy Night**

After receiving the light, each person will turn and light the candle of the person seated next to them. The candle that is lit should remain upright and the one being lit should tip towards the one that is lit. While the candles are being lit, we will stand and sing “Silent Night, Holy Night”.

## **\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

May the Christ who by his Incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into One, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go forth in peace and joy.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**\*HYMN - 251 Go, Tell It On the Mountain, v3**

As the room lights are turned on,  
please extinguish your candle.

