# Good Shepherd United Methodist Church First Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2019



Pastor - Pastor Bob Sielaff Music Director - Larisa Soboleva Worship Leader - Jean Mackey

## Order of Celebration

#### **GATHERING**

#### **Gathering Music**

Sharing the Life of the Church

Please complete the Communication Card and place it in the offering plate. If you have a prayer request, fill out a prayer card that will be collected during the first song.

Centering Music and Service of Lights

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Be near us, Lord Jesus, we ask you to stay close by us forever and love

us, we pray.

All: Immanuel, we invite you to draw near and dwell with us. Surround

us with your tender, caring presence, that what we say and do in worship might prepare us to live forever with you n heaven. In

your powerful name we pray. Amen.

\*Hymn: The First Noel UMH 245

A Time of Confession and Assurance

Leader: Holy God, you sent a star to guide the Magi to the child Jesus. We

confess that we have not followed the light of your Word. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world or trusted your good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth and re fused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less.

All: Forgive our doubt and renew in us all holy desires, that we may

watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior,

Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen.

Leader: The Lord's grace is sure. God has looked with favor upon his people

and has redeemed them. God has raised up a mighty Savior from the house of David. God spoke through the prophets of old so that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. God shows mercy and remembers his promises. Thanks be to God

for this gift of forgiveness and salvation.

All: Amen.

Hymn Away in a Manger UMH 217

THE WORD

Gospel Lesson John 1: 1 - 18 pg 1289

Epistle Lesson Ephesians 1: 3 - 14 pg 1423

Message Totally Set Free in 2020

#### **OUR RESPONSE**

Hymn Hail to the Lord's Anointed UMH 203

Offering Invitation

We remember God's gift to us in Jesus Christ. We offer our thanks and praise by sharing our gifts, remembering the gift of the Christ-child among us.

Offertory Music

\*Doxology UMH 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Dedication Prayer (In Unison)

God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **WE ARE SENT FORTH**

\*Hymn Go, Tell it on the Mountain UMH 251

Taking the Light to the World

Benediction

Pastor: May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the

Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the gospel.

All: Amen.

Postlude

Please join us for Coffee & Conversation in the Fellowship Hall

\*Please stand as you feel comfortable



## **BENEFITING CASS COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES**

Join us as we partner with First Dearborn and Empty Bowls Detroit to paint some soup bowls. The Bowls will then be sold by Empty Bowls at farmers markets and at their benefit dinner at Eastern Market. It will raise money for Cass Community Social Services.

When: January 18

Time: 2-4 PM

Cost: \$10

Where: Frist Dearborn UMC

Go to www.emptybowlsdetroit.com for more information.