

## Lift Up Your Eyes

Congregational part:

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lift up your eyes and see the light sur - round you;  
with ra - diant hope, il - lu - mi - nate the night.  
Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heav - en ring,  
lift up your eyes and see the ev - er - last - ing light.

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# IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

221 Church Street, Ferguson, Missouri 63135

December 24, 2017

CHRISTMAS EVE

8:00 & 10:30 p.m.

314-521-7324

email: info@immanuelucc.org

www.immanuelucc.org

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*\* Those who are able are invited to stand.*

*All hymns are from the Family of God Hymnal (blue)*

## Gathering Music

## Welcome & Life of the Church

**Prelude (8:00 p.m.)**      *"Break Forth, O Beauteous Holy Light"*      Bach

Karen Preis, Claudia Buschmeyer, Phil Lum & Paul Buschmeyer

**Prelude (10:30 p.m.)**      *"Still, Still, Still"*

## \*Bells and Chimes

## \*Call to Worship

One: Sing to our God a new song; Sing to our God all the earth.

**All: Glory to God in the highest heaven; Peace on earth to all!**

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God,

Let the earth rejoice, let trees of the forest sing for joy!

**All: Glory to God in the highest heaven; Peace on earth to all!**

\*Hymn of Praise      *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*      #178

## \*Gathering Prayer

**O God of the Baby of Bethlehem, we come into your presence with praise and thanksgiving. We hear the glad tidings of the angel voices. We come to experience this "breaking news" of great joy for all the people. As the shepherds traveled to Bethlehem, we have traveled here—excited, expectant, hopeful; a bit skeptical. Let the words of sacred scripture seep into our hearts, to be treasured and pondered anew. We are here; we are ready, O God! Let the light of your love break forth! Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri      *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*

*World without end. Amen. Amen.*

*"Lift Up Your Eyes"*

Raney

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

*"The Light of Christ"*

**Choir w/congregation sing (10:30 only)**

## Responsive Litany

One: For anyone who has walked in darkness, a new light has dawned!

**All: O come, let us adore him!**

One: For anyone who has ever felt forgotten, a new light has dawned!

**All: O come, let us adore him!**

One: For anyone whose patience has been put to the test, a new light has dawned!

**All: O come, let us adore him!**

One: For anyone in search of the way, the truth, and the life, a new day has dawned!

**All: O come, let us adore him!**

## Candle Lighting

**Choir w/congregation sing (10:30 only)**

**Closing Prayer** (in unison)

**Lord Jesus, tonight we join the angelic choir proclaiming glory to God in the highest. In a world where people seek the perfect gift to give, we rejoice because you've already given it. As you lit up the sky that first Christmas, continue to illuminate our world with your presence. We pray on this Christmas Eve that you will guide our every step, hear our every prayer, and delight in every praise as we come and worship Christ, our newborn King. Amen.**



~ *Announcements* ~

**WELCOME VISITORS!** Please fill out the attendance pads that are located in the pew. If you are a visitor, please let us know you were here and provide us with any information you feel comfortable sharing with us.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAYS, DEC. 25 and JAN. 1.**

**ONE SERVICE ONLY ON DECEMBER 31 at 9:30 a.m.**

**ONE SERVICE ONLY ON JANUARY 7 at 9:30 a.m.** The annual budget meeting will follow Worship at 10:30 a.m.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available for pickup in the Narthex. Help us save on postage.

**END OF YEAR GIVING** needs to be posted by December 31, 2017, according to the IRS.

*Merry Christmas to all!*

**MINISTERS**

*The People of Immanuel Church*  
**MINISTERS TO THE MINISTERS**

**Dr. Jimmy Watson**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Rev. Courtney Chandler**  
*Minister of Christian Education*

*God is Still Speaking*

**Carolyn Rock**  
*Interim Minister of Music*

**Linda Stoecklin, R.N.**  
*Faith Community Nurse*

**Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candle**

**“Lift Up Your Eyes”** A Candle Lighting Ceremony Raney  
Christmas Eve - *The Light of Christ* (see last page)

**Special Music (8:00 p.m.)** “O Holy Night” Adam  
Phil Lum, violin

**Anthem (10:30 p.m.)** “A Tiny Miracle” Choplin  
Sanctuary Choir & Johnathan Lum, congas

**Christmas Meditation** “Breaking News” Dr. Jimmy Watson

**Christmas Prayer** Rev. Annie Watson

**Prayer Response** “Away In a Manger” #185

**Call to Offering**

**Offering Invitation**

**Offertory** “Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella”

**\*Doxology** 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 of the Offering**

**Christ comes! Our hearts are full, our joy is boundless. May this offering be a living message of peace, love, spirit, joy and hope to this church, to this community, to this nation and world. Amen.**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion** Services of the Church, p. 59

*We believe Christ welcomes all to share at His table. We hold the bread and wine until all are served and partake together. Wine is in the outer rings of the trays, and white grape juice is in the center rings.*

## The Story Retold & Candle Lighting Service

### The Journey to Bethlehem

### The Shepherd's Story

Carol "Angels, We Have Heard on High" (red hymnal) #155

### The Coming of the Magi

Carol "We Three Kings" (red hymnal) vs. 1 & 5 #172

\*The Light of the World *(the candles are lit from the center aisle)*

\*Narrator: Arise, shine: For your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the people. But the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you, and nations shall come to your Light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

**\*All: Rejoice! The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it!**

\*Carol "Silent Night, Holy 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, wondrous star, lend thy light;*

*With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;*

*Christ, the Savior, is born, Christ, the Savior, is born.*

\*Hymn of Parting "Joy to the World" (blue hymnal) #171

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas"

## THANKS TO TONIGHT'S VOLUNTEERS

### Ushers tonight

8:00 p.m.

Richard Viehmann

Terry & Karen Fox

10:30 p.m.

George & Paula Hildebrand

### Sanctuary Door Greeters tonight:

8:00 p.m.

Tim & Julie Guethler

10:30 p.m.

### Outside Welcomers tonight:

8:00 p.m.

Karen & Ron Caguin

Phyllis, Walter & Phillip Martinez

10:30 p.m.

Marty Schuster

### Christmas Eve Candle Lighters:

8:00 P.M.

Karin, Scott & Gunnar Oelzen

10:30 P.M.

Nancy & Bob Remmert

