



Mountainside United Methodist Church
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 Rev. W. Douglas Mills, PhD
 Vera Kleinhenz, organist, Choir Director
 7:00 p.m. Worship Service
 December 24, 2017

Celebration of Christmas

**Indicates congregation standing as able*

PRELUDE	“Carol of the Bells”	ML
WELCOME AND GREETING		
*OPENING SONG	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	2
SCRIPTURE LESSON		1
	¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went there to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.	
SPECIAL MUSIC	“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”	
	LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE (SEE CARDS WITH BULLETIN) “Where the Promise Shines” <i>BY JOEL RANEY</i>	
ANTHEM	“Christmas is Coming” Raney Elena Maietta, Accompanist	MUMC Choir, harp
SCRIPTURE	Titus 2:11-14	
MESSAGE	Undercooked Turkeys	P:

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING FOR MISSIONS

OFFERTORY

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

UMH 238

*DOXOLOGY

#94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
(the pastor continues with words declaring God’s mighty acts...)

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**
Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
(the pastor continues with words remembering the action of God in Christ.)

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE DISTRIBUTION

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake
one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

(a child will pray:)
Visit your family, O God.
Give us love, joy, and your peace.
Purify our thoughts, words, and deeds, so that when Jesus Christ comes, he
a place prepared for his coming.

(a youth will pray:)

O heavenly Father, as we prepare ourselves for the coming of your son, fill our hearts and lives with praise.

Grant that we may be just and merciful, ready to help in the needs of our neighbor and conscious of your great love for all the world.

Fill the Christian family with your spiritual gifts of forgiveness, patience, mutual love, and unending joy.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:

¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

*HYMN

"Joy to the World"

#246

*SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*CANDLELIGHT CAROL

"Peace, Peace/ Silent Night"

Women of the ML

(While the hymn is sung, the pastor will begin to light the congregation candle. Please hold lit candles straight up; tilt unlit candles to

*BENEDICTION

Go, singing a song to the God of our salvation.

Sing of mighty deeds and glory.

Join the heavenly chorus and sing:

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace."

Sing of God's salvation from day to day.

Jesus Christ is born today!

It is our tradition to give all of our Christmas Eve offering to places of ministry. This year, we have chosen three ministries to children and youth: The Harbour in Albuquerque, McCurdy School in Española, and Sacramento Camp in southern New Mexico. The Harbour is a shelter for at-risk teens. McCurdy is a United Methodist ministry focused on education for lower-income families. And Sacramento Camp is the church camp owned by our Annual Conference. 100% of the undesignated offering that you give tonight will be divided as a Christmas gift to these important ministries.



Worship Schedule

Combined Services on December 30 at 10:15 am. Sunday school will be at 9:00 am. The service will be led by the JugBand and will include a message in English and a readers theater.

We will have a **New Year's Eve Watch Night Service at 8:00 pm December 31st.** You are invited to this prayer service and then to stay afterwards to play board games (and other) games. The youth will have a lock-in that night. You are welcome to come and stay as long as you like.



The church office will be closed December 25th through 27th. If you have an emergency, please call the pastor or church secretary at 505.359.0052.



Unhanging of the Greens: January 6th after the Contemporary Service. Join us as we "unhang" the greens after Epiphany services on January 6, 2014. We will share a light lunch of soup, bread, and dessert. Contact Janet Vertrees at 9087 with questions.



If you would like to join our email lists, you can go to the website, www.mountainsidemethodist.org and click on the link that will allow you to choose which list you would like to join.