

Providence United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2011 5:00 p.m.

Prelude "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" arr. Tom Fettke
Welcome
Call To Worship "Carol of the Bells" M. Leontovich
KC Jam Children's Choir
+Christmas Litany* Judith Jolly
With shepherds keeping watch so long ago,
We celebrate the birth of Jesus.
With angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest,"
We celebrate the birth of Jesus.
With that brightest star that led the faithful to Bethlehem,
We celebrate the birth of Jesus.
With the innkeeper who shared the animals' shelter,
We celebrate the birth of Jesus.
With wise men who studied the stars and brought gifts,
We celebrate the birth of Jesus.
With Joseph, who lovingly watched over Mary and the child,
We celebrate the birth of Jesus.
With Mary, who mothered the Christ child so long ago,
We celebrate the birth of Jesus.

+Song* "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" Verses 1 and 4 UMH 218

The Christmas Story through Scripture, Drama and Music
Readings from Luke 1 and 2 and Matthew 2

Musical Offering "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
Jahna Seymour soloist

Musical Offering "Breath of Heaven" Chris Eaton and Amy Grant
Ashley Kiper and Cathy Patterson, duet

Song* "Emmanuel" UMH 204

Song* "Angels We Have Heard On High" Verse 1 UMH 238

Song* "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Verse 1 UMH 240

Musical Offering "How Quietly" Joel Raney
Pass It On and KC Jam Choirs

Offering "I Need A Silent Night" Chris Eaton and Amy Grant
Tralena Walker, solo

Service of Holy Communion
The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
The Lord's Prayer
**Our Father, who 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread
Musical Offering "Christmas Communion Song" Susan Callaway
Pass It On Choir

Giving the Bread and Cup
*All are welcome to receive the bread and juice, which are signs of God's love and grace.
You are invited to come with open hands to receive the bread
and to dip it lightly in the juice.
Gluten-free wafers are also available as you come.*

The Advent Wreath Mary and Caleb Mills

Song "Happy Birthday"
Musical Offering "Happy Birthday, Jesus" Mary Cymbala
Hannah Jenkins, solo

+Benediction
+Postlude "Birthday of a King"

+Please stand as you are able.

A **nursery** is provided for children ages 4 and under. Ask an usher for assistance.

Narrators: Isabelle Sullivan and Betty-Anne Roberson
Mary: Clare Henderson Joseph: Sean Collins
Angel Gabriel: Keith Bahm
Wise Men: Dano Holland, Mike Patterson and Nathaniel Kun
Shepherds: Neil Fleenor, Jared Baker, Keller Baker and Ethan Palmer
Piano: Carla Wootten

Welcome to **Providence United Methodist Church**. If you are looking for a place to belong, be transformed by God's love and make a difference in the world, you have found it. We worship at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. We also invite you to any of the following activities:

- Wednesday Night Dinners starting January 11, 5:30-6:15
- Small groups starting January 11 at 6:30 p.m.:
 - Children and Youth Hands-on Mission;
 - Learn to Knit or Crochet to make a difference;
 - Bible Study "Faith from the Backside";
 - DVD-based study, "They Like Jesus, But Not the Church."
- Cross Trainers—Youth Group for 5th and 6th graders; Sundays at 12:15.
- Youth Choir—Sundays at 4:30 for grades 7-12;
- Youth Group—Sundays at 5:30 for grades 7-12
- Small group for couples' support and fellowship beginning February 24
- Beginning March 4, contemporary worship service at 9 a.m.

If you want to know more about Providence and finding a more personal connection with God through Jesus, please contact **Pastor Mary Beth Blinn**. You may reach her at the church (276-4289), at home (562-5169) or at Marybeth.blinn@providenceumc.net.

Tonight's **Christmas offering** will go to three mission projects: **Pathways** in Petersburg, VA offering GED and jobs skills, medical clinic and addiction counseling; **Branches** Ministry for children and youth in Florida City, Florida; **Haiti Children's Project** providing a safe and loving home for children without families. All cash and gifts marked "Christmas Offering" will support these important projects. Gifts in regular church offering envelopes will go to the operating budget of the church.

Are you or is someone you know looking for an **excellent preschool and extended hours**? Our preschool will be offering extended hours from 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. beginning soon. This arrangement is great for working parents, parents who are taking classes, and those who would like a flexible pick-up and drop-off. For more information, contact the Preschool at 276-1462.

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Advent Wreath liturgy is from Brian Wren, *Advent, Christmas and Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008) and reproduced by permission. Copyright 2007 by Brian Wren.



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