

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24, 2015



Rejoice!

Eastport United Methodist Church
926 Bay Ridge Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21403
410-263-5490

**Eastport United Methodist Church
Mission and Vision Statement**

We share our experiences of God's Kingdom with all, through our faith, love, fellowship and service. It is our vision to have everyone actively involved in worship that enriches, ministries that empower, and evangelism that embraces all.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Celebration
with Holy Communion
December 24, 2015**

**GATHERING
PRE-SERVICE PROGRAM
10:00PM**

Welcome

Bill Riggs & JoAnn Kulesza

Mary's Boy Child

Jester Hairston

Jim Wilcox

Mary Did You Know?

Mark Lowry

Sherrie Little

Rainbow Seeker

Eicher & Sample

Tom Eicher

Carol of the Flowers – Gascon Carol

Bas-Quercy

Charlotte Kerns, Jill Peddicord

Carols Around (and a Round)

Arr. Nygard

Wesleyan Choir

Joy to the World

Heavenly Bells

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
10:30 PM

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

One: We are here because we have heard a promise of peace

All: and we have faith its day will come.

One: We are here because we have heard a rumor of justice

All: and we have faith its day will come.

One: We are here because we have heard a whisper of hope

All: and we have faith its day will come.

One: We are here because we have heard a hint of love

All: And we have faith its day will come.

One: We are here because we have heard of the birth of the Christ-child

All: And we have faith His day is here.

One: Come once again to us with your peace, your justice, your hope, and your love.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, Come. Welcome to our world.

***Processional Carol**

O Come All Ye Faithful

UMH 234

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Alan & Cathy Thorne, Michelle Mejia

One: The light has come into the world! God has been born among us! As we light the Christ candle, we are reminded that light is a gift from God, a gift to be shared. Help us humbly receive the light of Jesus Christ in our lives. And may we share the gift of your light, your hope, your peace, your joy, and your love with others.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

Sung Response: Here I Am To Worship, v. 2

King of all days, oh so highly exalted

Glorious in Heaven above

Humbly You came to the earth

*You created all for love's sake became poor
Here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God,
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me*

Anthem

Sing Ye Nowell
Words & Music by Michael Jothan

Wesleyan Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***Scripture Reading**

Luke 2:1-20

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Christmas Message

Pastor Michelle

Special Music

Where You There on that Christmas Night
By Natalie Sleeth

Heavenly Bells

Sharing of Gifts

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
(JoAnn sings the first verse in Polish)
What Child is This

UMH 229

UMH 219, 1,2

***Doxology**

What Child is This
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, he babe, the son of Mary.

UMH 219, v. 3

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION THE 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.

So on this night when heaven reaches down
to touch creation with healing,
we join with the angelic chorus who sang your glory,
together with your people from every time and place,
we carol the good news:

(Angels We Have Heard on High):

**Come to Bethlehem and see, Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo**

...And so, in remembrance of these mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
Where Jesus became the bread of life,
to give life to the world.
We, too, offer ourselves as a living sacrifice
And proclaim the mystery of faith:

(Hark the Herald Angels Sing)

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"!**

...Through your son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen, Amen, Amen. (Sung)

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymns

The First Noel
Immanuel, Immanuel
Away in a Manger

UMH 245
Wesleyan Choir
UMH 217

***Candle Lighting**

*Please tip the unlit candle toward the lit candle as
the light makes it way through the sanctuary.
Glow lights are available for children.*

***Closing Carol**

Silent Night

UMH 239

**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 a-far,
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!**

***Blessing**

***Sharing Christmas Greetings**

Postlude

Ushers

Jerry Lesley, Tammy Lesley, Dennis Bergsman, Eunice Corse

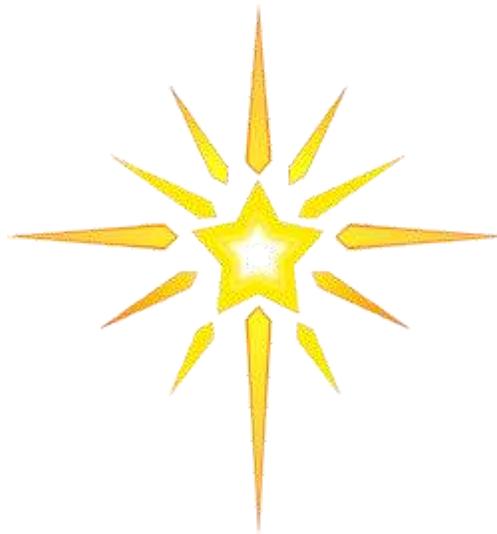
Communion Servers

Alan Thorne, Cathy Thorne, Pastor Michelle

Reader

Ed Owen

The Christmas wreaths decorating the pews this evening were made by pre-kindergarten children at Eastport Elementary School. It was their way of thanking EUMC and the United Methodist Men for their generous gifts to the children.



*We are grateful to everyone who served in any way
in this joyous celebration.
Thank you for being here tonight.
Merry Christmas!*

WORSHIP AT EASTPORT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, December 27th

10:00 a.m. Service of Stories and Songs

Dec. 31st New Year's Eve Interfaith Service

6:30 p.m. Pre-Service Program

7:00 p.m. Worship Celebration for Peace

New Sermon Series Beginning January 10th

Questioning the Bible:

Reading Scripture with Head & Heart

- Jan 17: What is this book we call "Scripture"?
Who wrote it and what kind of book is it?
- Jan 24: Is it true?
Is this fact or fiction...or something else?
- Jan 31: The Bible says it, I believe it, that settles it.
Is that how it works?
- Feb. 7: Does it really matter today?