First United Methodist Church HENRIETTA Established 1879 • Established 1879

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2017



The Perfect Gift John 3:16

Henrietta First United Methodist Church Dr. Keva Green, Pastor

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Order of Worship

PRELUDE Carol of the Bells
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* GREETINGS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Teri Reese

O Holy Night

* CALL TO WORSHIP Shane Crafton, Liturgist

Leader: This is a happy night, a holy night, the most joy-filled night of the year!

People: We gather to hear the story of Jesus' birth, how God came into this world to dwell among us.

Leader: We come together to sing the songs we love that celebrate this special time.

People: We come together to worship our Lord and Savior.

Leader: We rejoice together in what God has done and continues to do in our lives.

All: Christ, our lord, is born this night! So let us praise Him! Amen.

* OPENING PRAYER

* OPENING HYMN

UMH #196

Gloria

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Eddie, Laura, & Megan Hill

We light this candle as a symbol of God's eternal Word being born to us. May the birth of Jesus Christ in the stable of Bethlehem be renewed in our hearts this Christmas Eve. Glory to God in the Highest!

* RESPONSE

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

* GLORIA PATRI

CALL TO PRAYER

UMH#204

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
His name is called Emmanuel
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.

PASTORAL AND LORD'S PRAYER
SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY ANTHEM

- * Doxology
- * PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Glorious God, this Christmas Eve we stand in awe before you. Everything that we have comes from you in the first place and we thank you for the many blessings you have poured out on us. We humbly give back to you what is rightfully yours knowing that you have called us to be faithful to you. Just as you gave your life for us, may we honor you by how we live our lives so that in everything we think, say or do we may bring you glory. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

* HYMN OF PREPARATION

UMH #230

O Little Town of Bethlehem

SCRIPTURE John 3:16

VIDEO Christmas Story: As told by the Experts

MESSAGE Dr. Keva Green

The Perfect Gift

- * LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
- * CLOSING HYMN UMH #239

Silent Night

* BENEDICTION

Faith Walk

Announcements

Our VISION:

Is to serve as the heart, hands, and feet of Christ by...

- strengthening our personal relationship with Christ daily
- growing internally within our church family, and
- connecting externally throughout our community and our world.

Our MISSION:

is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world from the heart of Clay County.



January Sermon Series: In January we will be starting a new sermon series "Divine Support for the New Year." It will address some of the questions that some of you have asked about angels, praying for protection, and turning difficulties into opportunities. Join us as we dig deeper into God's Word and invite others to be a part of this time of seeking the Lord.

Altar arrangement: The alter arrangement was given in loving memory of our beloved son and brother, Shad Slaughter by Doris and Bill Slaughter, Shannon, Kade, Jade and Makenzie.

Pastor Keva and all of the staff of FUMC want to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas!

Calendar

Monday, December 25

Celebrate Jesus' Birthday

Tuesday, December 26

Church office closed

Sunday, December 31

8:30 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Coffee and Conversation

9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:35 a.m. Worship with Rev. Ryan Elms