



HE IS

Christ
THE
Lord

LUKE 2:11

*Christmas Greetings to You from All of Your Friends at
Wesley United Methodist Church*

Grand Forks, ND

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017

In the name and spirit of Christ, we welcome you to our worship this night.
We pray that you will take the Light of God out into a dark world.

A Gathering in Faith and Fellowship

Gathering Music

Marge Myrold & Bill Franke

Anthem

An Advent Invitation
by Douglas Nolan

Sanctuary Choir

Welcome and Greetings

(Please register your attendance on the pads found in each pew.)

* Call to Worship

Pastor: Do not be afraid; for see –
I am bringing you good news of a great joy for all the people.

**People: To us is born this day in the city of David, a Savior,
who is the Messiah, our Lord.**

Offertory

Marge Myrold

Prayer of Dedication

**God of every nation and people,
from the very beginning of creation
you made manifest your love.**

**When our need for a Savior was great,
you sent your Son to be born of the virgin Mary.**

To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

**May we be reminded this night of the humble birth of Jesus,
and raise up our thoughts to him, who is Emmanuel –
God with us. Amen.**

Special Music

Ave Maria

Kellie Burgess & Marge Myrold

* Please stand, as you are able.

CCLI License #906361

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

The Bidding Prayer and *The Lord's Prayer*

First Lesson

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

* Carol

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

Second Lesson

Isaiah 11: 1-4a

Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 1, 2, 6,7)

UMH 211

Third Lesson

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

Mary, Did You Know?

Marge Myrold

Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful (vv. 1-3, 6)

UMH 234

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:8-16

* Carol

Angels We Have Heard on High

UMH 238

Sixth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-11

Carol

We Three Kings (vv. 1 & 5)

UMH 254

Seventh Lesson

John 1:1-14

Message

Let there be Light!

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Bill Franke

Please hold all lighted candles upright and dip the unlighted candles to light them. Do not let small children hold or get near the candles.

* Closing Hymn

Silent Night, Holy Night

* Benediction

Please extinguish your candles following the benediction. Be careful of the hot wax. Deposit the candles in the baskets as you exit or take them home.

Assisting with Worship This Evening

Pastor: Rev. Jerry Bass
Organist/Accompanist: Marge Myrold
Providing Special Music: Kellie Burgess and Bill Franke
Readers: Bob Boyd, John Galegher, Pat Henry, Berniece Holm,
Bill Kerzman, Jessica Zerr
Welcome Team: Aileen & Duane Sandwick, Jan & Mark Hoffmann

*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.
- Luke 2:7*

We pray that there is a place in your heart,
this night and forever more,
for the Child, the Babe of Mary,
the Savior of the world.

Please plan to join us in January as we continue our *Journey of Faith*
and Pastor Jerry explores in his messages **Why**
(and how) we can fulfill the promise of our baptismal covenant
to participate in the ministries of our church
by our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.