



***Welcome to the Christmas Eve Service for the
Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater
December 24, 2020***

Our Vision: An inclusive religious community, a beacon for reason, meaning and bold social action.

Our Mission: To celebrate dignity and respect for all, nurture lifelong spiritual growth, act for justice and equality, and serve the wider community.

Welcome: Sue Boone

Prelude: "El Noi de la Mare" Catalan - Diego

Call to Worship: by Edward Erickson

Unison Chalice Lighting:

This Christmas Eve, the flame our chalice holds reminds us of the gladness of Christmas, which is Hope; the spirit of Christmas, which is Peace; and the heart of Christmas, which is Love.

A Christmas Tale for All Ages Meredith Olson

Hymn: #246 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

First Reading: Luke 2:1-20

A Christmas Prayer: Rev. Dave Franks

Hymn: #245 "Joy to the World"



Special Offering:

Christmas Eve Day Collection

Our entire Christmas Eve Day collection, excluding pledges, will go to Feeding America Tampa Bay. More than 1 million people in west central Florida found themselves food insecure when Covid-19 surged the need by up to 400%. Thousands of those people are children. The holiday season should be a time of hope and happiness for children and their families. But the truth is it's tough to have hope when you and your children are facing hunger. When you give a gift to Feeding America, you give more than a meal. You give hope to families in need all across Tampa Bay. Please be generous and give hope, the need is so great. For more information go to <https://www.feedingtampabay.org/>.

After clicking on the link below, select "Feeding America Tampa Bay" from the first drop down box.

For online giving: <https://uuc.breezechms.com/give/online>

If you prefer text giving: (727) 500-2410

Offertory: "Come To Set Us Free" - UUC Chorale

Second Reading: "Christ Climbed Down" – Lawrence Ferlinghetti

Homily: "The Journeys of Christmas" Rev. Roberta Finkelstein

Invitation to Virtual Candle Lighting (If you have a candle nearby, please dim your lights now, switch to gallery view, and we will light our candles together.)

Hymn: #251 "Silent Night"

Benediction: by Jacob Trapp

Extinguishing the Chalice:

"Go in peace, go making peace, live gently, love mightily and bow to the mystery"

We are a spiritually diverse congregation. Whoever you are, whomever you love, whatever your life situation, wherever you are on your spiritual path, thank you for choosing to worship with us.



Our Grateful Thanks:

Worship Associate: Sue Boone; **Service Technical Support:** Jeremy Dillow; **UUC Music:** Dr. David Katz, Linda Jones, UUC Staff Accompanist, Diego Iglesias, UUC Tenor Section Leader and Soloist UUC Chorale; **Staff:** Rev. Dave, PPCM; Rev. Roberta, Transitional Minister; Anne Gilbert, Office Administrator; Meredith Olson, Transitional Director of Religious Enrichment; Gary Strauss, Security Guard; Susan Strauss, Custodian **Pastoral Associates:** Kathy Krohn (December 21 – December 27); Susan Hegner (December 28 – January 3).

Special Thanks to L. Wood for the beautiful and inspiring UUC original artwork





Hymn #246 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.



Hymn #245 "Joy to the World"

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns: let men their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.



Hymn #251 "Silent Night"

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 afar,
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia,"
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
child of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.