

Gathering

Bringing in the Light - VT 210 O Come, O Come, Immanuel

Please join on the refrain.

Call to worship

Leader: Gather us in this sacred hour.

All: Creator, come.

Leader: Stir us by beauty and mystery.

All: Spirit, come.

Leader: Lead us in love towards mercy.

All: Jesus, come.

VT 281 Joyful Is the Dark

Offering ourselves and our gifts

Confession and Affirmation

Leader: To those who fear, fear not! To those who hide, come out!
To those who mourn, your tears are the source of a healing river.

All: Our love is stronger than our fears. Our visible presence matters. None of our tears are shed in vain.

Offering VT 601 Lead Me, Guide Me

Birthdays

Hearing the Word

Children's Time (*Children 3 and under are dismissed for Little Children's Time in room 2, with childcare afterward. Children 4 and up are invited up front for Children's time*)

Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon

Responding to the Word

Silence

VT 541 Listen in the Silence

Sharing our lives

Singing our prayers (on back)

Sending

Introduction of Visitors

Announcements (*Please hand written announcements to the worship leader before this time*)

VT 239 He Came Down

Benediction

Light Dancers: Caleb Yoder Schlabach, Eliza Miller, Norah Kern, Linden and Bryn Rothshank, Kiki Smuts, Alice Kauffman, Lia Sywulka, Alyda Miller Avelar; Musicians: Magdalena Horst, Isaya Magatti, Elias Magatti, Rebecca Dengler Kaufman, Jim Kaufmann, Wilma Harder; Song leader: Scott Hochstetler; Worship Leader: Jon Zirkle; Children's Time: Rachel Hostetler; Scripture reader: Hilary Bertsche, Sandy Fribley; Preacher: Anna Yoder Schlabach; Sharing: Scott Coulter; Tech hosts: Ben Good-Elliott, Patrick Coonan; Visuals: Stephen Lowe, Anna Yoder Schlabach, Kay Bontrager-Singer, co-pastor of Faith MC

Join us 2nd hr. for a congregational meeting in the Worship space. This will be a first reading of [a proposal](#) to sponsor the Montessori Preschool that meets in our building. A Zoom option is available; those on Zoom will not be able to give input into discussions.

Upcoming Events:

Longest Night service: Dec 21, 7 pm

Christmas Eve service/supper: Dec 24, 6pm. Sign up in Gathering space

Christmas Day Worship with Faith Mennonite: Dec 25, 5pm

New Year's Day Breakfast Potluck: Jan 1, 9:30am, worship at 10:30 am

HEARING ASSISTANCE

This worship space has two systems to help people with hearing loss participate more fully in our life together.

1. FM system. Get a receiver and ear speaker from the sound booth.
2. Hearing Loop accessed by hearing aids with t-coils. Find a seat in the worship space and turn on the t-coils in your hearing aids. (You do not need a receiver or headphones.) If you aren't getting great reception on your hearing aid, try moving closer to the middle of the circle. There is a map at the sound booth showing where the best seats are.

All
 [A] *repeat continuously* [B]

Hmm. God of mer-cy, hold us in love.

[A] *Leader or Assistant* [B]

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:
2. For peace and sal - va - tion, we pray to you:
3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo - ples:
4. For us, who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos - pel:
6. For all those who gov - ern, that jus - tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la - bor in ser-vice to oth - ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan - ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer - cy:

[A] *Leader or Assistant*

Help us, com-fort us, all of our days:

All

Keep us, hold us, gra - cious God.

Advent: Restoration is Near

Do not be Afraid

December 18, 2022



Joyful Is the Dark

JOYFUL DARK 5.5.10.6.5.10

1 Joy - ful is the dark, ho - ly, hid - den God,
 2 Joy - ful is the dark Spir - it of the deep,
 3 Joy - ful is the dark, shad - owed sta - ble floor;
 4 Joy - ful is the dark, cool - ness of the tomb,
 5 Joy - ful is the dark, depth of love di - vine,

roll - ing cloud of night be - yond all nam - ing,
 wing - ing wild - ly o'er the world's cre - a - tion,
 an - gels flick - er, God on earth con - fess - ing,
 wait - ing for the won - der of the morn - ing,
 roar - ing, loom - ing thun - der - cloud of glo - ry,

maj - es - ty in dark - ness, en - er - gy of
 silk - en sheen of mid - night plum - age black and
 as with ex - ul - ta - tion, Mar - y, giv - ing
 Nev - er was that mid - night touched by dread and gloom:
 ho - ly, haunt - ing beau - ty, liv - ing, lov - ing

maj - es - ty in dark - ness, en - er - gy of love,
 silk - en sheen of mid - night plum - age black and bright,
 as with ex - ul - ta - tion, Mar - y, giv - ing birth,
 Nev - er was that mid - night touched by dread and gloom:
 ho - ly, haunt - ing beau - ty, liv - ing, lov - ing God.

love, Word in flesh, the mys - ter - y pro - claim - ing,
 bright, swoop - ing with the beau - ty of a ra - ven,
 birth, hails the in - fant cry of need and bless - ing,
 gloom: dark - ness was the cra - dle of the dawn - ing,
 God. Hal - le - lu - jah! Sing and tell the sto - ry!

541

Listen in the Silence

LISTEN IN THE SILENCE Irregular

Capo 3: (D) (A m/D) (D) (A m/D)
 F Cm/F F Cm/F

Lis - ten in the si - lence; lis - ten in the noise;

(D) (A m/D) (F maj7/E) (G/D) (A)
 F Cm/F A/maj7/G Bm/F C

lis - ten for the sound of the Spir - it's voice.

Text: Linnea Good (Canada)
 Music: Linnea Good

601 Lead Me, Guide Me

Swing:

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME Irregular

Capo 1: (D) (E7) (A) (E7) (A) (D7) (G)
 Refrain Eb F7 Bb F7 Bb Eb7 Ab

Lead me, guide me, a-long the way, for if you
 lead me, I can-not stray. Lord, let me walk each
 day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
 2 Help me tread in the paths of right-eous-ness.
 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me.

to help me o-ver my weak-est hour.
 Be my aid when Sa-tan and sin op-press.
 I am blind with-out thy light to see.

Help me through the dark-ness thy face to see.
 I am put-ting all my trust in thee.
 Lord, just al-ways let me thy ser-vant be.

To refrain
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris M. Akers (USA)
 Music: Doris M. Akers
 © 1953 Doris M. Akers, renewed (admin. Unichappell Music, Inc.)

239 He Came Down

HE CAME DOWN Irregular

G D7

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down
 2 He came down that we may have peace; he came down
 3 He came down that we may have joy; he came down

that we may have love; he came down that we may
 that we may have peace; he came down that we may
 that we may have joy; he came down that we may

Leader (omit last time)
 Why did he come?
 have love; hal-le-lu-jah for ev-er-more.
 have peace; hal-le-lu-jah for ev-er-more.
 have joy; hal-le-lu-jah for ev-er-more.

Text: Common traditional
 Music: Common traditional; arr. John L. Bell (Scotland)
 © 1990 WCRC, Ina Community Admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

