

# Communion Service for January 5, 2020

## A SILENT TIME OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE “Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning” -arr. W. Held

## THE PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

One: Arise, Shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**All: The brightness of God’s light shines upon all the nations all are welcomed to the brightness of God’s dawn.**

One: God gathers us from far away and carries us. With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts, we receive the abundance God gives.

**All: We respond with our gifts and our lives as we gather to worship God!**

- CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #151 “The First Noel” (*Verses 1-3, 5*)

- CALL TO CONFESSION

- PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In unison*)

**Ever-patient God, we stumble around bombarded by news of war and poverty, famine and genocide, injustice and oppression. Help us be people of the light, shining your light of righteousness, peace, and joy into all the gloomy places of our lives and world. Unlock the mystery and glory of the babe born in Bethlehem. Lead us on a journey of purpose guided by your star. Let your hope be born in our lives and in our world and transform us into people of the light.**

- SILENT CONFESSION

- ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

- THE GLORIA PATRI #35 (*Sung by all*)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning,**

**Is now, and ever shall be**

**World without end. Amen. Amen.**

## CHILDREN’S TIME

- GREETING OUR FRIENDS IN CHRIST “Salam” (*Sah-lahm*).

- CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #167 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (*Verse 3*)  
(*Children, age 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade may leave for Sunday School downstairs.*)  
(*Ushers will collect prayer cards at this time.*)

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;**

**Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.**

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.**

(*Repeat opening refrain once to end*)

#### SCRIPTURE

First Reading:           **Isaiah 60:1-6**                           (*page 690*)

                                  Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14                   (*page 533*)

Second Reading:       **Matthew 2:1-12**                           (*page 2*)

                                  Ephesians 3:1-12                           (*page 193*)

#### SERMON

CHORAL ANTHEM “There Is a Child” -D. Besig

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD’S PRAYER (*In unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts  
as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil,  
for thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

#### OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY “What Star Is This?” -arr. R. Lau

- OFFERTORY RESPONSE #162 “What Child Is This” (*Verse 3 & Refrain*)  
**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich, and poor, 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, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

• DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*In unison*)

**O God, you have given us the gift of your grace that we might share it with others. We receive boundless riches and resources to hold in trust. Receive now, we ask, what we have given today. Use these offerings and use each of us to further your plans and purposes. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

*(At Emanuel we practice an open communion table. We invite all who have come seeking Christ's strength to share in this holy meal. You will be invited to come forward, take a piece of gluten-free bread and dip it in the juice (white) or wine (red), or you may take an individual cup if you prefer. If you prefer to be served at your seat a server will come to you).*

Invitation to the Table & Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Hymn of Thanksgiving #414: (*Sung by all*)

**Eat this bread, drink this cup;**

**Come to me and never be hungry.**

**Eat this bread, drink this cup;**

**Trust in me and you will not thirst.**

Sharing the Supper #86 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*In unison*)

**Faithful God, at this table we welcome your grace as fresh as the dawn of this new year. The possibilities to engage in mission and ministry lie endlessly before us. We give thanks because this meal strengthens us body and spirit and reminds us that we belong to you. Amen.**

• SENDING HYMN #172 "We Three Kings"

• MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE "The March of the Three Kings" -arr. R. Wilson

**Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve**

*Our time of worship concludes at the end of the Postlude. If you would like to remain in the sanctuary to listen to this music written and played to glorify God, please do so quietly.*

*Otherwise, you may join others in the narthex for refreshments and fellowship.*

*Emanuel now offers online giving with the **GIVE+** program. For more details, please contact the church office or log on to our webpage [emanuel-ucc.org](http://emanuel-ucc.org) and click on the*

***GIVE+*** icon at the bottom.