

# Sunday Service for December 29, 2019

A SILENT TIME OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen” arr. J. Innes

PASTORAL GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

• CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

**One:** I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

**All:** **Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he Favors!**

• GATEHRING HYMN #165 “Once in Royal David’s City” (*Verse 1 &2*)

• CHRISTMAS POEM (by Ann Weems) (*In unison*)

**Each year the Child is born again. Each year some new heart finally hears, finally sees, finally knows love. And in heaven there is great rejoicing! There is a festival of stars! There is celebration among the angels! For in the finding of one lost sheep, the heart of the Shepherd is glad, and Christmas has happened once more. The child is born anew and one more knee is bowed!**

• SILENT PRAYER

• 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.**

• GREETING OUR FRIENDS IN CHRIST Mele Kalikimaka– (*Meh-l- kah-lee-kee-mah-kah*).

• CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #169 (*Verse 2*)

**O thou joyful, O thou wonderful love revealing Christmastide!  
Loud hosannas singing and all praises bringing:  
may Thy love with us abide!**

**¡Oh santísimo, felicísimo, Grato tiempo de navidad! Coros Celestiales  
Oyen los mortals: ¡Alegría, alegría, cristiandad!**

## SCRIPTURE

First Reading:	<b>Isaiah 63:7-9</b>	<i>(page 693)</i>
	Psalm 148	<i>(page 582)</i>
Second Reading:	<b>Matthew 2:13-23</b>	<i>(page 2)</i>
	Hebrews 2:10-18	<i>(page 219)</i>

SINGING FAVORITE CAROLS *(We will sing two verses of each as indicated)*

#160 “Lo, How a Rose E’re Blooming” *(Both verses)*

#155 “Angels We Have Heard on High” *(Verse 1,4)*

## CHRISTMAS STORY

#162 “What Child Is This” *(Verse 1,3)*

#163 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” *(Both verses)*

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 “Sweet Little Jesus Boy” -R. MacGimsey *(Erma Politoski, soloist)*

• OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Good Christian Friends” *(Verse 2) (Sung by all)*

**Good Christian Friends rejoice, with heart and soul and voice!**

**Now you hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!**

**He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blessed for evermore.**

**Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

• DEDICATION OF GIFTS *(In unison)*

**Gracious God, thank you for Christmas. Thank you for the birth of your son, our savior, Jesus, born in a manger and born in our hearts again in this Christmas season. Receive this offering and bless our lives in the name of the little babe of Bethlehem. Amen.**

• SENDING HYMN #150 “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” *(Verse 1 & 3)*

- COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION
- MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE “Masters In This Hall” -arr. G. Young

**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*