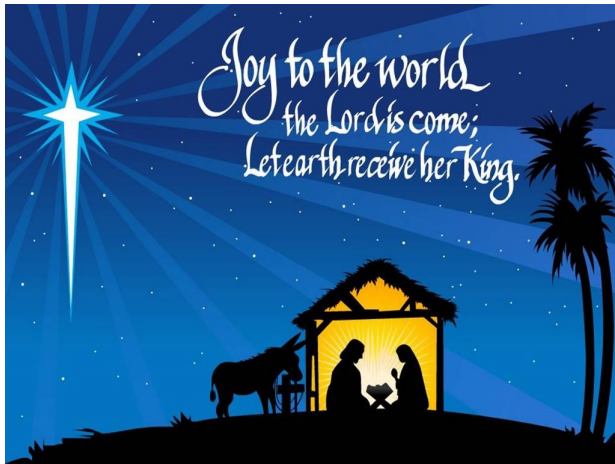


Laingsburg United Methodist Church



The Christmas Eve offering will go to the SafeCenter in Owosso. SafeCenter provides a variety of services that focus on creating pathways to safety for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Coming events at LUMC:

December 26: Blood Drive 2-6:30 pm



Nurturing disciples of Jesus Christ in intentional Christian community through outreach, fellowship, worship, discovery and service.

- LUMC Missional Focus

Christmas Eve

God of the Dark and the Light

Pastor Tiffany Newsom † December 24, 2023 † 7pm

Welcome to Laingsburg United Methodist Church

We are happy that you're here!

PRELUDE Chong Zheng

WELCOMING & GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 96 UMH 815 & 816

OPENING HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" UMH 230

THE CHRISTMAS STORY Isaiah 9:2-7

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again.

Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

Come, Lord Jesus. *Lighting the first candle*

That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love.

Come, Lord Jesus. *Lighting the second candle*

That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin.

Come, Lord Jesus. *Lighting the third candle*

That the wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ.

Come, Lord Jesus. *Lighting the fourth candle*

That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. *Lighting the center candle*

HYMN "Away in a Manger" UMH 217

A TIME WITH YOUTH "Sanctuary" TFWS 2164

A JOYFUL NOISE BELLS "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

SCRIPTURE STORY Luke 2:1-20

SERMON *God of the Dark and the Light* Pastor Tiffany

HYMN OF PREPARATION "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" UMH 218

GUIDED AND PASTORAL PRAYER

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II UMH 12

INVITATION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Offertory

The Doxology (UMH 95) *(Stand as able)*

The Prayer of Dedication

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PASSING OF THE PEACE and SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

As we prepare to sing our closing hymn, "Silent Night" by candlelight, you will be invited to light the candle you received earlier from the candle of the person seated next to you.

Please be careful not to tip an already lit candle.

CLOSING HYMN "Silent Night, Holy Night" UMH 239

BLESSING *(by Heidi Newmark)*

May the everlasting love of God enfold you in blessing,

May the Spirit's light shine before you,

And may the embrace of the Holy Child

Keep you this night and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE Chong Zheng

During our Worship Service, the nursery room is available for children, accompanied by a parent. Please know that ALL children are welcome in worship.