

IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY (DEC. 31)

Accompanist: Marsha Metz

Liturgist: Julie Riggs

HAPPENING WEEKLY IN THE LIFE OF YOUR CHURCH

Every Wednesday: 10-11am Prayer Fellowship

6:30-7:30pm Wednesday Night Bible Study

Each Day: Use the Prayer Guidebook (available in the lobby) to pray daily for your family, church, community, and the world.

THIS WEEK IN YOUR CHURCH

Today: Christmas Eve

10:30am Sunday School for the adults. The children are off for the next two Sundays.

6:15pm Carleton Brass

7pm Worship with candles and carols

Next Sunday: 9:30am Worship (last day for 2023 giving)

GIVING ENVELOPES

The 2024 Giving Envelopes are on the Usher's counter. Please take yours today. If you are not currently using Giving Envelopes and would like a set, let the church office know.

As a reminder that the church office will be closed this week. Please call the parsonage (654-2001) if you have a pastoral need.

BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION

Wednesday Night Bible Study continues through December 27th and then will resume January 3rd at 6:30pm

New in 2024: Monday Morning Bible Study will begin a study of the Historical Books of the Bible on Monday, January 22nd from **10:30 to 11:30am**. Note the new meeting time for this group. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby for those interested in attending.



Carleton United Methodist Church

"Radiant People, Brilliant Life, Bright Future"

11435 Grafton Road

Carleton, MI 48117

P.O. Box 327

Church: 734-654-2833

Parsonage: 734-654-2001

www.carletonumc.com

Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023

Rev. Eun Sik Poy, pastor

Accompanist: Marsha Metz

Liturgist: Lisa Poy

Order of Worship

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

***Call to Worship & Lighting of the Advent Wreath** Pastor Cloud & Lisa
Leader: When the angel Gabriel visited Mary, announcing God's plan for her to conceive and give birth to the Messiah, "Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?'" (Luke 1:34) And yet, only a few months later, Mary sings to Elizabeth.

My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name (Luke 1: 46-49).

We, like Mary, hear God's call to be part of making God's dream for our salvation and flourishing a reality, and we question, "How can this be? I am only..." Yet, like Mary, the "onlys" that make us hesitate are gifts God can and will use as God's love transforms us into bearers of good news.

Congregation: We wait as people who have encountered divine Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into abundant life marked by mutual love and peace that flows from the flourishing of all people.

Leader: We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, and our just peace, our fierce joy, and the love that transforms us. May Love grow with us, transforming us into bold witnesses of God's salvation with our voices and our lives. Amen.

***Opening Song** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* 220

***Greet One Another**

Children are welcome to help themselves to the activity cart

Prayer Requests and Praises

Please fill out a green prayer card for those you are lifting in prayer today so that we may send a card of encouragement to them.

Pastoral Prayers

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.

Song of Preparation *O Come, All Ye Faithful* 234

Scripture Reading Luke 1: 46-55

Reader: This is the word of God for the people of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

Message *"Mary Broke the Curse"* *Rev. Eun Sik Poy*

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

Almighty God, we thank You for Your love and mercy, granting us the joy of Christmas. This morning, our hearts overflow with gratitude for Jesus Christ, Your Son who came to bring us perpetual hope and peace. He is our eternal source of joy. Loving God, help us to embrace the Christmas spirit of love and compassion, enabling us to share Your blessing with others. We thank You, Lord. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

***Sending Song** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* 150

Benediction

***Please stand as able.**