

considering making this your new church home, scripture teaches us that the responsibility to support the ministries of this church are ours. Tithes and offerings are given as an act of worship unto the LORD.

(Proverbs 11:25-26; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

The Collection
Offertory
*Offertory Prayer

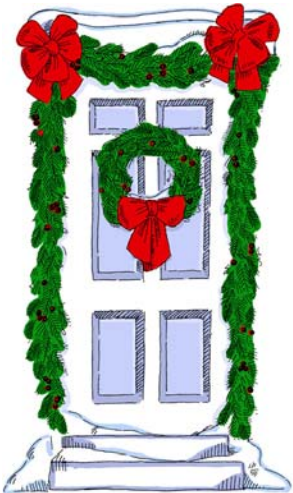
We Go

*OUR CLOSING HYMN

"Joy to the World"

246

*THE BENEDICTION



As this afternoon turns to evening, and the evening into Christmas, may each of you receive what it is that you truly need to walk this life in His name. May we all realize how incredibly blessed we are with those around whom we are gathered this year!

Merry Christmas to all!

Pastor Howard, Dawn and Hilary



Reverend Jane Allen Middleton, Resident Bishop
Rev. Dr. Pamela Ford, State College District Superintendent
Reverend Howard T. Woodruff, Lead Pastor (238-1630)
Shane Landherr, Intergenerational Pastor (359-9447)
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY,

Jesus!

Mt. Nittany United Methodist Church

WORSHIP BULLETIN

Christmas Eve, 5:00 p.m.

December 24, 2009



BIRTHDAY PARTY for JESUS

Welcome to this Afternoon's Worship Experience!

Jesus said, "...unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom of God" (Matthew 18:3). And the Christmas story is just the place for us to begin our childhood recollections. This evening the Christmas story will be presented to children in an environment with which they are well accustomed; a birthday party! Please keep in mind that this service has been designed for our children, but we as adults stand to learn much from how they are taught.

Please take a moment to sign the attendance register found at the end of your pew. If you are visiting with us this morning, we ask that you provide us with your name and mailing address on the attendance register or that you complete a visitor's card and place it in the offering plate during our morning offering. We also cordially invite you to return and, if you are searching for a church home, we invite you to consider making us a part of your new church family.

To enhance your worship experience with us, we want you to know that we have audio enhancement equipment available, just ask our Sound System Attendants. If you desire a large print bulletin or hymnal, please request one from one of our Worship Attendants. If you have children, we have a fully staffed nursery (located to the right of the Family Life Center just beyond the doors of the Sanctuary) and we have "Children's Pew Packs" located on the tree rack in the Narthex. Also, the places in the bulletin marked by an asterisk (*) indicate that you should stand, if so able. The **heavy print** such as this indicates those areas in which you should join with your voice.

We Come

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

PRELUDE

GREETING and PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* # 234

We Prepare

THE INVITATION IS OFFERED

- Scripture Reading *Luke 1:26-33, 38; Matthew 1:18-24*
- Kid Time *Writing the invitation*
(we invite children of all ages to come up front and be a part of this time)
- Extending the Invitation
- **Hymn** *"To a Maid Engaged to Joseph"* # 215

PREPARING FOR THE PARTY

- Scripture Reading *Luke 2:1-5*
- Kid Time *Preparing the house*
- **Hymn** *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* # 230

HE HAS COME

- Scripture Reading *Luke 2:6-7*
- Kid Time *Jesus is delivered*
- **Hymn** *"What Child Is This"* # 219

MUSIC MEDITATION

"O Holy Night"
Steve and Katherine Clemons

THE GUESTS ARRIVE

- Scripture Reading *Luke 2:8-16*
- Kid Time *What a group*
- **Hymn** *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* # 230

THE PARTY BEGINS

- Scripture Reading *Luke 2:17-20*
- Kid Time *"Happy Birthday Jesus"*
- **Hymn** *"Happy Birthday Jesus"*

We Respond

OUR OFFERING

If you are visiting with us, please consider yourself our guest. Please feel no obligation to give money to the church. Freely enjoy this service allowing God's Spirit and His Word to minister to your heart. However, if you are