



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)  
 Karin Garner, Office Manager (237-3549)  
 Patty DeCapria, Lay Leader (238-6794)  
 Emily Gregory, Associate Lay Leader (238-8769)  
 Barbara Sommers, Assistant Lay Leader (466-6086)

Electronic Addresses

Church Office: ..... mtnittanyumc@comcast.net  
 Church Website: ..... www.MtNittanyUMC.org  
 Central Pennsylvania Conference: ..... www.cpcumc.org  
 State College District Website: ..... www.umcstatecollege.org

1500 East Branch Road  
 State College, PA 16801  
 (814) 237-3549

# Christmas Eve



*Mt. Nittany United Methodist Church*

## SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETIN

*December 24, 2009*

*7:00 p.m.*



## Welcome to This Evening's Worship Experience!

Tonight we stand on the verge of the greatest gift to ever have been given. It is human nature that when we receive anything we immediately begin to ponder what we must give in return. But sometimes we cannot equal the value of a gift given to us. What do we do then? This evening we will experience that with this "Greatest Gift", there is a way in which we can "repay" God for what He has given us.

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.

May God bless us as we worship together in His Holy Temple!

### We Gather

THE LIGHTING OF OUR CHRIST CANDLE

OUR PRELUDE

OUR GREETING and PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

**\*OUR OPENING HYMN "In the Bleak Midwinter" # 221**

### We Hear and Proclaim

OUR FOCUS SCRIPTURE READING *Mark 5:1-20* Pg. # 886  
*Luke 2:1-20*

OUR MUSIC MEDITATION *"Christmas Day is Come"* Sanctuary Choir

OUR ASSEMBLY TIME *"Have we overlooked something?"*  
*This is a time when we invite our children through the age of 11 to come to the front of the Sanctuary to share time with the Pastor and each other.*

**\*OUR HYMN OF PREPARATION "O Come, All Ye Faithful" # 234**

OUR EVENING MESSAGE *"Love's greatest gift"*

### 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 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

Jayme and Curtis Ishler

\*Offertory Prayer

### We Go to Serve

**\*A SERVICE OF CANDLELIGHTING "Silent Night, Holy Night" # 239**

\*THE BENEDICTION

**\*THE BIDDING HYMN "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" # 251, refrain only**