



*December 24, 2021*  
*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

[www.greenfieldcharge.org](http://www.greenfieldcharge.org)  
[greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com](mailto:greenfieldchargeucc@gmail.com)

Facebook: Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

Pastor  
Mrs. Wendy Farber

Organist  
Gary McIntyre

[farberhome@atlanticbb.net](mailto:farberhome@atlanticbb.net)

*Christmas Thought*

The perfect Christmas is a myth. After all, the first Christmas was hardly perfect. It was glorious and difficult, miraculous and earthy, sublime and sweaty, tender and harsh.

*Dave Meurer*  
*Good Spousekeeping (2004)*

*Prelude/Lighting of the Candles*

*Special Collection – St. Jude Children's Research Hospital*

Offertory Statement

Offertory Prayer

\* *Call to Worship*

Emmanuel: God, you are with us.

**We have heard the promise of the prophets;**

We have caught the notes of the angel's song;

**We have seen a star in the heavens, we have believed.**

Tonight we have come to be with you because you have come to be with us.

**We seek an innocent, helpless baby in a crude manger;**

We seek a Messiah who will reign with justice;

**And you, who are the weakest and the strongest, the most humble and the most mighty have found us.**

Now we may find ourselves.

**Now we may love each other, now we may truly worship you. Crying aloud with the heavenly host: "Glory to God in the highest! Peace on earth and goodwill to all people."**

**Amen.**

\* *Opening Hymn*

**“O Holy Night”**

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining;

It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.

Long lay the world in sin and error pining,

Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope- the weary world rejoices,

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!

O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here came the Wise Men from Orient land.  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,  
In all our trials born to be our Friend.  
He knows our need— to our weakness is no stranger.  
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!  
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;  
Let all within us praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

### *Advent Candle Lighting Litany - Christmas*

Tonight is the night for which we have been waiting. The Advent wreath is completed with the Christ candle in the center. "For unto us a child is given, unto us a Savior is born and the order of the world will be upon his shoulders." With the birth of Christ our lives are centered, focused, turned toward God. We light this candle because Christ is the center of our lives. Let us pray.

#### *Lighting of the Christ Candle*

Dear God, who comes to us in Jesus, on this night as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let the power of Christ come into our hearts that we might find peace with you forever. Amen.

### *Children's Christmas Message*

#### *First Lesson - Luke 1:26-38*

*Carol*

***“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”***

Of the Father's love begotten  
ere the worlds began to be,  
he is Alpha and Omega,  
he the source, the ending he,  
of the things that are, that have been,  
and that future years shall see  
evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth forever blessed  
when the virgin, full of grace,  
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
bore the Savior of our race,  
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
first revealed his sacred face  
evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers and sages  
sang of old with one accord,  
whom the voices of the prophets  
promised in their faithful word.  
Now he shines, the long-expected;  
let creation praise its Lord  
evermore and evermore.

*Second Lesson - Luke 2:1-7*

*Carol*

***“O Little Town of Bethlehem”***

**VH #89**

*Third Lesson - Luke 2:8-14*

*Carol*

***“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”***

**TH #106**

*Forth Lesson - Luke 2:15-20*

*Carol*

***“Angels from the Realms of Glory”***

**TH #104**

*Fifth Lesson - John 1:1-5,9*

*Lights are dimed,  
Leader brings forth the light of the Christ candle.*

*\* Candlelight Service*

It is God's gift to love us this Christmas. Tonight, we see his light shining in the darkness. Tonight, we hear his word, the word made flesh, piercing the silence. Tonight, the boundaries of darkness are pushed back. A light shines in the darkness. A light shines from Bethlehem's stable. A light shines in our hearts. And the darkness is powerless to extinguish it.

*\* Candlelight Carol*

*"Silent Night"*

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

\* *Benediction*

Go forth, let us bear witness to the light, as it is a gift from God.  
Live as children of the Light, for this is your heritage.

**We will welcome Christ, the living Word, in our homes, for  
God empowers new life in our families. Amen.**

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*