

Preparing the Way for Jesus

(Adapted from "A Christmas Drama based on
Luke" By Shirley Cooman & Cindy Holtrop)

CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2022 | 4:00 PM
SANCTUARY



WASHINGTON STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Under the direction of Jane Peterson
with music direction by Nicholas Todd

WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 24, 2022 | Christmas Eve | 4:00 pm

(As our worship begins, please silence any electronic devices.

Portable hearing devices are available in the Narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Alston Lippert

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

Rev. Alston Lippert

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Rev. Alston Lippert

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

In Unison

Open us, O God, to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind with the shepherds to Bethlehem to see the glorious redemption you have brought to pass through the newborn lying in a manger. Amen.

Preparing the Way

SCENE ONE

The Birth of Jesus Fortold

(Luke 1:26-38)

*Hymn #219

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

Verse 1

Words: William C. Dix, 1865 (Lk. 2:6-20; Mt. 2:1-12)

Music: 16th cent. English Melody

SCENE TWO

Elizabeth's Blessing of Mary and Mary's Praise to God

SOLO

Ave Maria

Franz Schubert

Soloist, Michelle Graham

SCENE THREE

The Birth of John the Baptist

Luke 1:57-68, 76-77, 80

*HYMN #224

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

Verse 1

Words: 14th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1855

Music: German melody; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988

SCENE FOUR
The Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-7

*Hymn #217

Away in a Manger

AWAY IN A MANGER

Verses 1-2

Words: Anon. (Lk. 2:7); Music: James R. Murray

SCENE FIVE
The Shepherds

Luke 1: 8-20

*Hymn #239

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

Verses 1-2

Words: Joseph Mohr, 1818, alt.; sts. 1, 2, 3 trans. by John F. Young;

st. 4 trans. anon. (Lk.2:6-20)

Music: Franz Gruber, 1818

SOLO

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Soloist, Michelle Graham

SCENE SIX
The Visit of the Magi

CLOSING

*HYMN 246

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Verses 1, 4

Words: Issac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)

Music: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*Please join us for worship tomorrow for the Christmas Day service at 11:00 am.
Blessing of the Toys. Casual dress.*

**Congregation standing. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue your participation.*

When our worship ends, our service begins!

Preparing the Way

(Adapted from "A Christmas Drama based on Luke"
by Shirley Cooman & Cindy Holtrop)

Directed by Jane Peterson
Musical Director, Nicholas Todd Shumate

The Cast

(in order of appearance)

Narrators Joe Epting, Rev. Becky Shirley
Angel Leila Jackson
Mary Michelle Graham
Elizabeth Licia Jackson
Zecharia Grant Jackson
Neighbor Travis Luthren
Shepherd Dr. Michael Oehler
Sheep Isabel Oehler
Wisemen Alan-Jon Zupan, Malcolm Lemons, Nicholas Todd Shumate

The Crew

Costumes/ Props Susan Caskey, Sam Waldrep, Jane Peterson
Sound Grant Jackson
Videographer Lynn Shirley
Musical Direction Nicholas Todd Shumate
Director Jane Peterson

**Congregation standing. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue your participation.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS! JESUS CHRIST IS BORN!