## Visions United Spirit Gathering December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - Christmas Eve

"The Inn: Housing the Holy"

## **Our Community Gathers**

Prelude O Holy Night Daphna Pearson, Piano

Music: Adolphe Adam, ©Public Domain. Arr. Daphna Pearson All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A - 720804

Welcome

**Medley of Carols** 

VU#73 The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy (vs.1&2)

Words/Music: West Indian Carol © 1945 Boosey & Hawkes. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A-720804

VU#48 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs.1&3)

Words: Charles Wesley 1739. Music: Felix Mendelssohn 1840 All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A -720804

VU#36 Angels from the Realms of Glory (vs.1)

Words: James Montgomery, 1816. Music: Henry Smart 1867 All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A - 720804

We Open the Door Love Comes to Us at Christmas Solo: Bill Peters

Words/Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Lighting the Christ Candle** 

We invite you to light your Christ Candle and/or your Advent Wreath with us.

Song Words/Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler

Love comes to us at Christmas
Love comes to heal our souls.
Love brings an invitation
that our hearts might be made whole.
As we gather at the stable
in the darkness, glad and grateful
for the sacred in our midst,
for wonder and delight,
Christ is born in us this night.

The Peace

The Light of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

We Listen to the Story

Carol VU#62 Once in Royal David's City (vs. 1&2)

Words: Cecil F.Alexander 1848, alt.

Music: Henry J. Gauntlett 1849. Harm: Arthur H. Mann ©1957 Novello & Co, Limited. Desc: David Willcocks ©1970. Oxford University Press.

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Scripture Story Luke 2: 1-7

Special Music No Room Visions' Choir

Words/Music: Dennis & Nan Allen ©1997; adapted words: Peter Lightfoot 2021 John W. Peterson Music Company. ©1986 All rights reserved

Story Introduction Making Room Shawn Redden

Carol VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (v.1)

Lead: John Foster

Words: French Carol. Trans: ©CPP/Belwin Inc.

Music: Public Domain. Harm: ©1989. The United Methodist Publishing House.

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**The Donkey's Story** The Fatigue of Christmas

John Pearson

Carol VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (v.2)

**The Cow's Story** The Impatience of Christmas

Glenna Lightfoot

Carol VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (v.3)

Scripture Story Luke 2: 8-14

Carol VU#38 Angels We Have Heard on High (v1&2)

Words: French trad.; trans. James

Chadwick 1860. Music: French Carol, arr. Edward S. Barnes 1937. © Public Domain

Scripture Story Luke 2:15-20

The Lamb's Story The Excitement of Christmas

Joan Hawkes

Carol VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (v4)

**The Doves' Story** The Uncertainty of Christmas

Anna Peters

**Carol** VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (*v*5)

Our Story Christmas Comes in Us

Brian Botten

## We Respond to the Story with Gratitude & Our Prayers

Carol VU#56 Jesus, Our Brother (v6)

**Sharing Our Gifts** 

Advent Unwrapped – The Story of Advent & Christmas *A video story created by Visions' Children's Program* 

**Our Community at Prayer** 

Away in a Manger (v.1)

Lead: John & Daphna Pearson

Words: unknown; Music: William James Kirkpatrick, 1892;

arr. Desmond Hassell ©1992. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A - 720804

Spoken Prayers (instrumental)

Away in a Manger (v.2)

We Go Forth with the Light of God's Blessing

Blessing & Sharing of the Light of Christmas

We invite you to light a candle and join in singing Silent Night.

Carol VU#67 Silent Night

Lead: Lorna Teed, Daphna Pearson, John Foster, Kim & Brian Affleck (guitar) Words: Joseph Mohr 1818, English trans: John F. Young 1863, et al. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE A - 720804

Merry Christmas!

May the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love fill your heart this Christmas