

**\*Blessing**

**Anthem/Carol**      *Joy to the World*      arr. Dan Forrest  
(Congregation sings along on verses 1 and 4)  
*\*Please stand on verse 4*

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**      *Hallelujah* from "Messiah"      Handel  
arr. Nicolò Alloisio  
(You are invited to be seated for the Postlude before exiting the Sanctuary.)

*\*Please stand if you are able.*



***Serving in Worship:***

Pastor: Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm  
Organist: Javier Gonzalez  
Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez  
Readers: Don and Colette Pattison, Rev. Alice Walsh, Joel Chermonte, Jean Scothon, Ed Brewster, John Wolter  
Greeter: Barb Andrews  
Usher: Ron and Barb Clough  
Video Production: John and Michelle Wolter, Phil Wolter

***Join us for worship on Sundays at 10:30 am!***

***Sunday, December 29  
Featuring Christmas Carols!  
10:30 am  
Sanctuary and Online***

**North Olmsted United Methodist Church**

4600 Dover Center Road, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070

440-779-6634 + [www.noumc.org](http://www.noumc.org)



## Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024 7 pm

### **Welcome and Greeting**

L: The grace and peace of our Lord and Savior be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

**Prelude** *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* Mark Hayes  
arr. Douglas E. Wagner

**Special Music** *It Came Upon A Midnight Clear* arr. Lisa Nelson  
Trombone: Hoyte Wilhelm

**\*Call to Worship & Lighting of the Candles** Don & Colette Pattison

L: Beloved, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah, "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

**P: Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby. "His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this" (Isaiah 9:7).**

L: We light these candles as signs of the hope, peace, joy, love, and light of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God's salvation wherever we go.

**\*Unison Prayer** Alice Walsh  
**Almighty God, we have waited for your light to shine in the darkness of this world. In our gathering on this Holy night, we trust that your light will illumine us again, banishing our fears and giving us the strength and courage to be lights of hope and love**

**for all the world. Inspire us and fill us with the goodness of your Son, Jesus, born anew in our lives again. Amen.**

**Handbell Choir** *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella*  
arr. Robert Groth and Kevin McChesney

**\*Hymn** *O Come, All Ye Faithful (vv.1-3,6)* UMH 234

**The Birth** Luke 2:1-7 Joel Chermonte

**Hymn** *Away in a Manger* UMH 217

**The Shepherds and Angels** Luke 2:8-14 Jean Scothon

**Hymn** *Angels We Have Heard on High* UMH 238

**The Shepherds' Adoration** Luke 2:15-20 Ed Brewster

**Anthem** *Anthem for Christmas* arr. John Purifoy

**The Offering Offertory** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*  
Handbell Choir arr. Kevin McChesney

**\*Doxology** UMH 94

**\*Prayer**

**Reflection** "Light of Love" Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm

**Hymn** *The First Noel (vv. 1-4)* UMH 245

**Scripture Readings** John 8:12; Matthew 5:14-16 John Wolter

**\*Hymn** *Silent Night, Holy Night (with candlelight)* UMH 239