

**EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**4901 Woodbine Road  
Sykesville, Maryland 21784  
(410)795-6136**

www.ebenezerumchurch.org

*Rev. Judith A. Emerson, Pastor  
Linda Bange, Music Director/Organist  
December 24, 2019  
10:00 PM*

***Christmas Eve Worship***

GATHERING

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

*“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”*

UMH No. 229

*“Away in a Manger”*

UMH No. 217

PRELUDE

*“Noel Joyeux”*

Gordon Young

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among all people.

**Let the earth rejoice; let the coastlands be glad.**

The heavens proclaim God’s righteousness, all people behold God’s glory.

**God’s mercy has appeared in a Savior.**

Bow down before the babe of Bethlehem.

**For in the lowly and commonplace, God appears!**

Bringing joy to the world!

\*OPENING HYMN

*“Joy to the World!”*

UMH No. 246

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

**Loving God appear to us now and renew us by your Holy Spirit. Awaken us to respond with praise to all that you reveal. Move us now through the words of long ago, to hear your Word today. Open our hearts and lives to make room, not just for the babe of Bethlehem, but for the Savior of the world. Reign within us and fill us with your joy. Amen.**

DUET

*“Lullaby to A Rose”*

Ken Middleton & Becky Faulkrod

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Scripture reading from Isaiah 9:2-7

Throughout this season we have lived, waited, and remembered the hope, peace, joy, and love of God found in Christ.

Lighting Advent Candles I, II, III & IV

Candle Lighting Liturgy – Lighting the Christ Candle

Tonight we gather together and light candles in honor of the Christ Child.

With the birth of Christ, salvation has drawn near. The God who ordered the chaos of the universe has come down into the chaos of our world. The Word which was with God at the beginning came down and lived with us. While we were yet living in the valley of the shadow of death, the light of new life burst forth.

We light this candle for Christ.

**On this night, we remember God has come in the Christ Child.**

Sung Response

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

Hymn No. 234

Stanza No. 6

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,**

**Jesus, to thee be all glory given.**

**Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:**

**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

NT pg. 54

CHRISTMAS SERMON

*“Behold the Light of Christmas!”*

*Rev. Judy Emerson*

HYMN

*“What Child Is This”*

UMH No. 219

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

DUET

Stephanie Cvach & Heidi Davis

\*Presentation of our Gifts

\*Doxology

*“In the Bleak Midwinter”*

UMH No. 221

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

**May these offerings exalt you, O God, and make visible the good news of Christmas. In the name of the One you gave at Christmas, who in turn gave life for us, Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.**

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*“Silent Night, Holy Night”*

UMH No. 239

PRAYER

**Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.**

SOLO

*“O Holy Night”*

Ken Middleton

\*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

\*POSTLUDE

*\*Congregation standing when able  
TFWS – The Faith We Sing Hymnal  
UMH – United Methodist Hymn*



# **CHRISTMAS 2019**

## **RED POINSETTIAS IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

*Edwin & Ruth Bennett by the Bennett Family*

*Ralph, Frances & Susan Emerson and Sophia Bunting  
by Rev. Judy Emerson and The Brown Family*

*William Hare  
by Rev. Judy Emerson and The Brown Family*

*Gary Paulsgrove by Debbie Paulsgrove*

*Mrs. Kitty Haight by Olivia Wisner*

*Frank & Mary Bennett and Prentiss & Clare VanSant  
by The Bennett Family*

*Our Parents, Edgar & Shirley Cornelison and William & Margaret Wisner  
by Chuck and Rebecca Wisner*

*Hilda & Myrvin Gardner by their Family with Love*

*Bob Biddinger by his Family with Love*

*Mae Fitzwater by Jim & Doris Leary*

*Lillie Leary by Jim & Doris Leary*

*Our Grandparents by Steve & Katie Cave*

*Dorothy & Jesse Ridgley and Jesse Jr by Gerry & Linda Bennett*

*Frank & Miriam Bennett by Gerry & Linda Bennett*

*Patricia Bennett by Gerry & Linda Bennett*

*Marie Watkins by Gerry & Linda Bennett*

*Ralph Tull by Debbie Paulsgrove*



**WHITE POINSETTIAS IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

*Tony Pokorny  
by Rev. Judy Emerson and The Brown Family*

*Charles & Elizabeth Rosier  
by Charles & Pauline Rosier*

*Donald & Charlotte Paulsgrove  
by Debbie Paulsgrove*

**MARBLE POINSETTIAS IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

*Bob Davis by his loving wife Joyce*

*Jordan Davis by his Family*

*Stephen Leary by Jim & Doris Leary*

*Helen & Harvey Reiblich by Janet Davis*

*Loved Ones Gone Too Soon  
by Kenny & Sandy Wean*

**MARBLE POINSETTIAS IN HONOR OF**

*Barbara Hare and William & Mary Brown  
by Rev. Judy Emerson and The Brown Family*

*Barbara Davis by Janet Davis*

*C. Dale and Madge Keefer  
by Charles & Pauline Rosier*

*Jan Tull by Debbie Paulsgrove*