

“Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve”
CHAPEL HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Reflecting God’s Love: With Openness and Honesty;
With a Willingness to Serve
Blue Christmas Service
December 19, 2019
All of Us, Ministers
Pastor Brenda Gordon

Welcome

OPENING PRAYER

Psalm 23 (KJV). In unison

HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs 1 & 2 UMH 211

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 40:1-2a, 26-29, 31 Pastor Brenda Gordon

HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs 3 & 4 UMH 211

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 22:1-2,9-11, 24-26a

SCRIPTURE Matthew 11:28-29 Pastor Brenda Gordon

HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs 5 UMH 211

CANDLE LIGHTING

THE LORD’S PRAYER

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

My friends, life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make this earthly pilgrimage with us, so be swift to love, and make haste to do kindness, and the blessing of God, who comes to us as +Creative Presence, Saving Grace and Lifegiving Spirit be upon you and all whom you love and pray for this day, and forever more.

All: Amen.

One: Let us bless the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Piano/Organ Accompaniment played by, Linda Calahan

***Please Join Us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on
Thursday December 24th at 6:30 pm***



In the Silence: Here are some suggestions for using the brief times of silence throughout the service this evening:

Breath prayer: Focus your awareness on your breathing. As you exhale, breathe out the pain or grief that makes this Christmas feel blue. As you inhale, breathe in the peace or healing God Offer's you.

Focus on God's promises: Allow a word of promise from scripture to come to mind, and receive it as a gift. When other thoughts arise, bring your mind back to God's promise.

Create positive imagination: Think of someone who needs your prayer. Picture them surrounded by God's love and peace.

Rest in God's presence: Be aware of tension in your body. Relax your muscles while praying, "God, I rest in your presence."

Psalm 23 (KJV). In unison

23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 22:1-2,9-11, 24-26a

1

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me,
so far from my cries of anguish?

2

**My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,
by night, but I find no rest.**

9

Yet you brought me out of the womb;
you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast.

10

**From birth I was cast on you;
from my mother's womb you have been my God.**

11

Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.

24

**For he has not despised or scorned
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.**

25

From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;
before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows.

26

**The poor will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord will praise him—**