

SUMMERLAND UNITED CHURCH
*celebrating faith
seeking justice and
serving others in a loving community*

Welcome to our Christmas Eve Service
Rev. Donald Schmidt - Presiding
December 24th, 2021



TEAMWORK MAKES SUNDAY WORSHIP HAPPEN

Words of Welcome: Kathleen Estabrooks

Scripture Reading: Reed MacWilliam

Greeters: Kathryn McLaughlin & Larry Harder

Ushers: Rick Gasior & Peggy Barnett

Accompanist: Lynn Robinson

Music Leader: Kathleen Estabrooks

PowerPoint Creation: Judi Ritcey – **Presenter:** John Bubb

Sound: Dylan Ganzeveld

Words of Welcome (Kathleen)

Announcements (Kathleen)

Territorial Acknowledgement (Donald)

WE SING TOGETHER VU 62 – Once in Royal David’s City

CALL TO WORSHIP

An emperor told Joseph and Mary to go to Bethlehem,
and so they travelled

An angel told some shepherds the good news, that the Messiah
had been born,

and so they went to see the child.

In the midst of a pandemic and uncertainty we come,

knowing that God is with us once again.

Come, friends, and let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

In the quiet hush of this night, we gather in this place.

Normally reserved for the bright joy of Sunday mornings, tonight
this becomes a special place wherein we huddle in the symbolic
darkness of night and celebrate that you, gracious God, are with
us in both night and day. We are never far from your love. May
we experience that anew this night, and may we proclaim that
good news always. Amen.

WE SING TOGETHER VU 60 – O Come All Ye Faithful

LIGHTING THE ADVENT & CHRIST CANDLE (Donald)

**Generous God, you have given us a time of preparation to
receive again your gift of love and joy and hope and healing. In,
the birth of the child, Jesus, you have given new life to each of
us. May we experience the presence of Emmanuel, God with us,
this day, and always. Amen.**

WE SING TOGETHER VU-69 Away in a Manger

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9: 2-7 (Reed MacWilliam)

WE SING TOGETHER VU 44 It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2: 1-7 (Reed MacWilliam)

WE SING TOGETHER VU-74 What Child is This

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2: 8-20 (Reed MacWilliam)
Koppangan by Petra Moraeus Kathleen Estabrooks
WE SING TOGETHER VU 48 – Hark! The Herald Angels

REFLECTING ON THE WORD (Donald)

WE SING TOGETHER VU-75 – While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks
CELEBRATION OF OUR GIVING WE SING OUR RESPONSE VU-55 What
can I give him (Verse 4)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Donald

WE SING TOGETHER O Little Town of Bethlehem – Verse 1

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Donald

WE SING TOGETHER O Little Town of Bethlehem – Verse 2

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Donald

WE SING TOGETHER O Little Town of Bethlehem – Verse 3

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Donald

WE SING TOGETHER O Little Town of Bethlehem – Verse 4

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A CHRISTMAS CREED from LATIN AMERICA

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the power of the gospel which
began in Bethlehem.

I believe in the One whose spirit glorified a small village, of whose
coming the shepherds saw the sign, and for whom there was no
room in the inn.

I believe in the One whose life changed the course of history, for
whom the rulers of the earth had no power, and who was not
understood by the proud.

I believe in the One to whom the poor, the oppressed, the
discouraged, the afflicted, the sick, the blind and the outcast gave
welcome and accepted as Saviour.

I believe in the One who, with love, changed the hearts of the proud, and with his life, showed that it is more important to serve than to be served, and that the greatest joy is in giving your life for others.

I believe in peace, which means justice among all peoples and nations and love among all.

I believe in reconciliation, forgiveness and the transforming power of the gospel.

I believe that Christmas is strength and power, and that this world can change if, with humility and faith, we kneel before the manger.

I believe that I must be the first one to do so. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WE SING TOGETHER VU-67 Silent Night, Holy Night

BLESSING

Announcements:

Vaccine passports and masks are required to attend all worship services.

There will be no worship service on December 26

The Worship Committee is looking for volunteers to be Greeters, Ushers and Scripture Readers. Please talk to Joan or Peggy on Sunday.

“We sincerely thank our own Kathleen Estabrooks for creating & sharing a beautiful seasonal banner for our pulpit. Her talents continue to bless all of us. “