**\*Benediction**

L: May God fill you with all justice, mercy, and humility. May your hearts leap for joy. May your mouths be filled with songs of praise. May you announce glad tidings of peace. And may you welcome Christ into your midst. Go in peace to love and serve. Amen.

**First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw**

Nativity of Our Lord

December 25, 2022



*“And the Word became flesh and lived among us…"*

*(John 1:14)*

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**Prelude**

**Greeting/Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** (*spoken responsively*)

L: Jesus the Messiah is the image of the invisible God

**P: There is no other name under heaven that we are saved**

L: He came to save his people from sin and death

**P: Shout for joy all the earth**

L: Though born into this world, He was before all things

**P: In him all things hold together**

L: He is the Alpha and the Omega

**P: He is the Prince of Peace and the Lord of Lords**

**\*Opening Hymn:** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” #175 (vv.1-3)

**\*Christmas Reading**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**\*Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

L: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate word. Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives, through Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever; and who taught us to pray…

**P: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Scripture Lesson**: Hebrews 1:1-12

**Special Music:** Brianne and Jocelyn Evans

**Congregational Reading:** Psalm 98

**P:** **O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

**Hymn of Affirmation:** “What Child Is This?” #179 (vv.1-3)

**Prayers of the People**

L: Lord in Your Mercy…

**P: Hear our prayer.**

**Gospel Lesson**: John 1:1-14

**Special Music:** Micki Martin

**Sermon:** “God With Us”

**Hymn:** “The Birthday of a King” #187 (vv.1-2)

**Communion**

**Invitation of Offering**

L:In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. May Love reflect in our lives, as we collect this morning’s tithes and offerings.

**\*Doxology**

**\*Closing Hymn**: “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” #195 (vv.1-5)