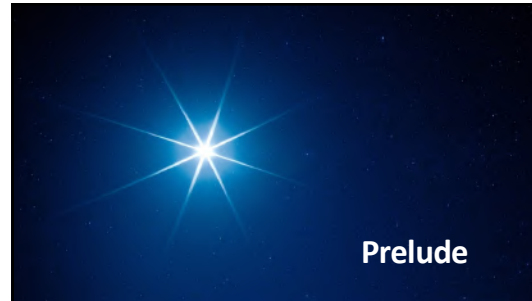




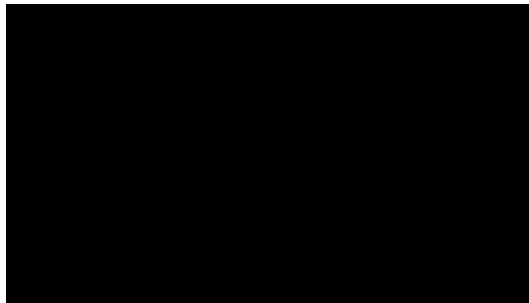
1



2



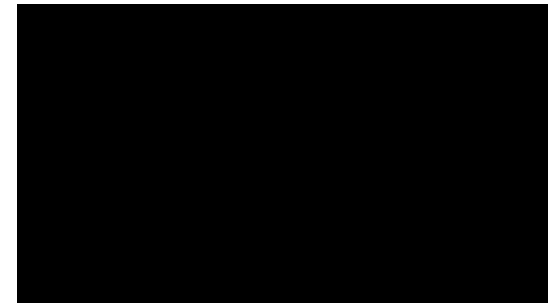
3



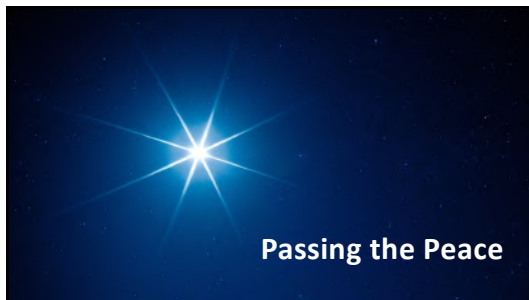
4



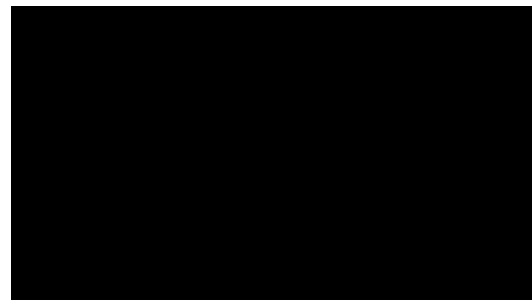
5



6



7



8



9

Leader: We live on the brink every day. We stand on the threshold between this world and the next one. We live and move between the ordinary and divine,

10

between the mundane and the mystery. Too often, we forget to look up and see the angels in our living room. We forget that the love we give and live is a sign of

11

eternity, God with us, right now. We forget that company is coming.

Luke tells us that God's favor came to a girl, an ordinary girl. It might

12

have been you or your daughter; it might have been the girl down the street or your grandchild. But the messenger of God came and greeted her and said, "The Lord is

13

with you." What a gift and a promise: Emmanuel, God is with us.

We light these candles with peace in our hearts for the promise of

14

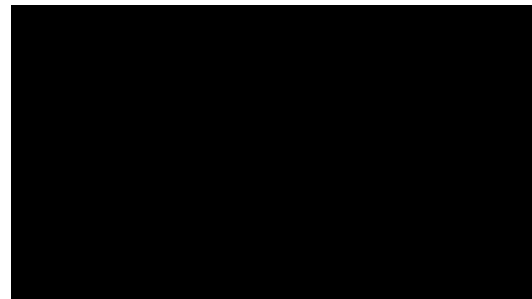
proximity, the nearness of God. Even when we forget to listen, to lean into that presence, God is as close as our own breath. This, in a confused and confusing world, is a

15

peace that passes all understanding. It is the peace that knows that company is coming.

\*\*\*

16



17

Advent Song



18

**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus v1**

UMC Hymnal #196, Words: Charles Wesley, Music: Rowland Prichard

*(v1) Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in thee.*

19

*Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.*

\*\*\*

20

21

Scripture  
Luke 1:26-38



22

In the sixth month the angel  
Gabriel was sent by God to a town  
in Galilee called Nazareth, to a  
virgin engaged to a man whose  
name was Joseph, of the house of

23

David. The virgin's name was  
Mary. And he came to her and  
said, "Greetings, favored one! The  
Lord is with you." But she was  
much perplexed by his words and

24

pondered what sort of greeting  
this might be. The angel said to  
her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for  
you have found favor with God.  
And now, you will conceive in

25

your womb and bear a son, and  
you will name him Jesus. He will  
be great, and will be called the  
Son of the Most High, and the  
Lord God will give to him the

26

throne of his ancestor David. He  
will reign over the house of Jacob  
forever, and of his kingdom there  
will be no end." Mary said to the  
angel, "How can this be, since I

27

am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will

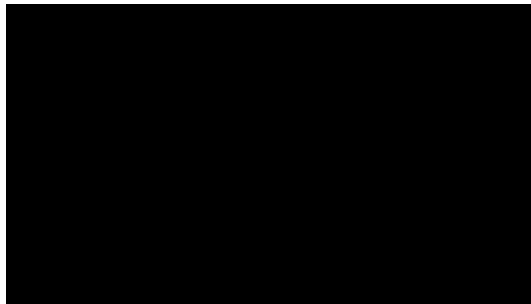
28

be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said

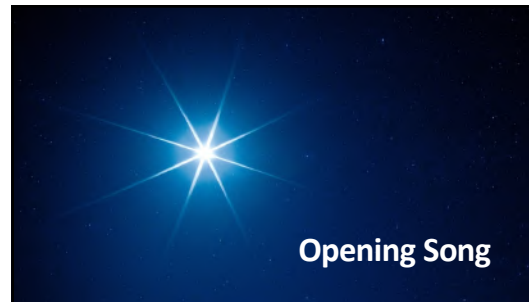
29

to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. \*\*\*

30



31



32

### To a Maid Engaged to Joseph

UM Red Hymnal #215, Words: Gracia Grindal, Music: Rusty Edwards

*(v1) To a maid engaged to Joseph,  
The angel Gabriel came.  
"Fear not," the angel told her,*

33

*"I come to bring good news,  
good news I come to tell you,  
Good news, I say, good news.*

34

*(v2) "For you are highly favored  
By God the Lord of all,  
Who even now is with you.  
You are on earth most blest,  
You are most blest, most blessed,  
God chose you, you are the blest!"*

35

*(v3) But Mary was most troubled  
To hear the angel's word.  
What was the angel saying?  
It troubled her to hear,  
To hear the angel's message,  
It troubled her to hear.*

36

*(v4) "Fear not," for God is with you,  
And you shall bear a child.  
His name shall be called Jesus,  
God's off-spring from on high.  
And he shall reign forever,  
Forever reign on high."*

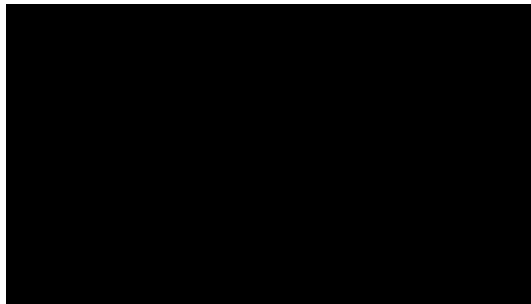
37

*(v5) "How shall this be?" said Mary,  
"I am not yet a wife."  
The angel answered quickly,  
"The power of the Most High  
Will come upon you shortly,  
Your child will be God's child."*

38

*(v6) As Mary heard the angel,  
She wondered at his words.  
"Behold, I am your handmaid,"  
she said unto her God.  
"So be it; I am ready  
according to your word." \*\*\**

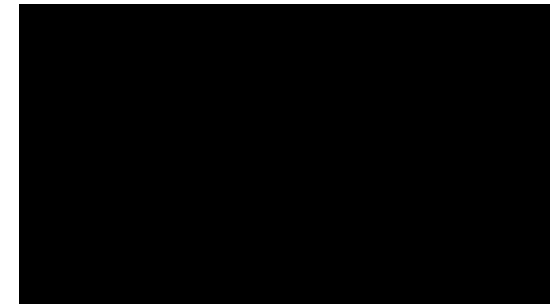
39



40



41



42



43

People: 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

44

within us the image and likeness  
of our Creator, to whom be  
everlasting praise and glory,  
world without end.

*(silent confessions)*

45

Leader: The Holy One forgives  
and bestows favor on each of us,  
even and especially when we are  
lowly in spirit. We are blessed  
from generation to generation by

46

the Mighty One, whose strength  
and mercy are forever.

People: Let it be with us  
according to God's Word. Amen.

\*\*\*

47

48

Response Song

49

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel**

UMC Red Hymnal #204, Words & Music: Bob McGee

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
His name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, Revealed in us,  
His name is called Emmanuel.*

\*\*\*

50

51

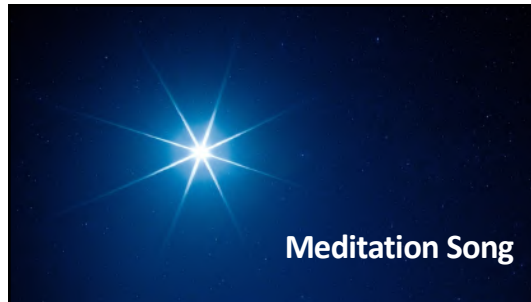
Sermon  
Loving Home  
Rev. Angie Utter  
Darlington & Fayette UMCs

52



53

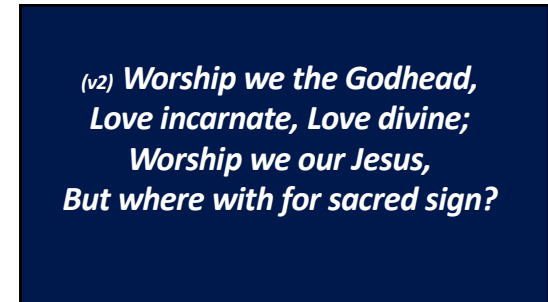
54



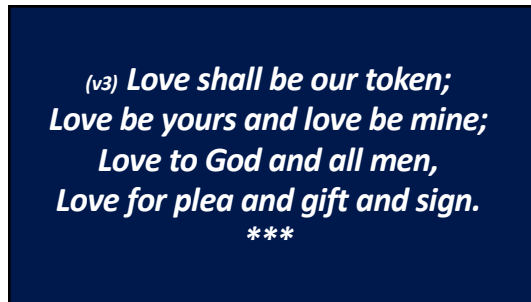
55



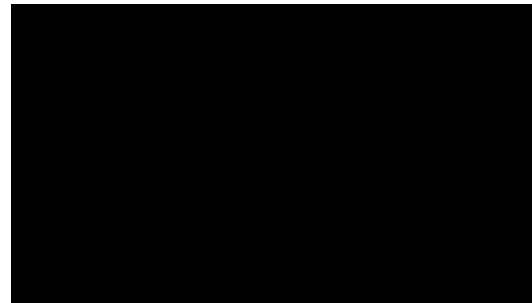
56



57



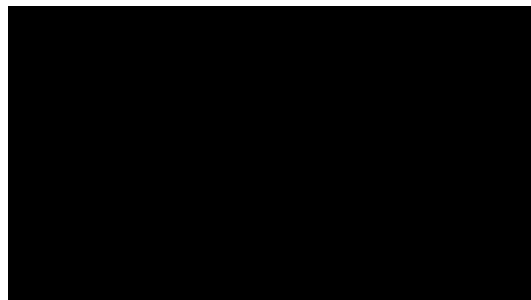
58



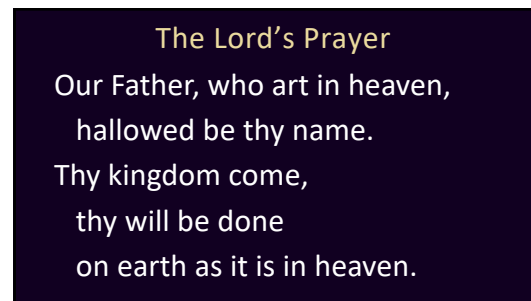
59



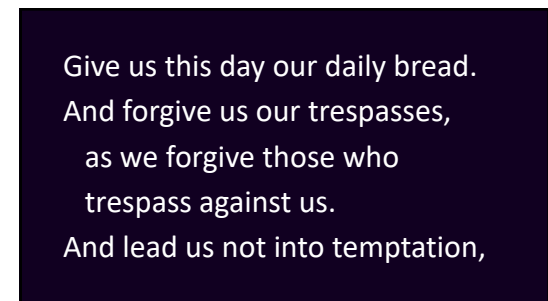
60



61



62



63



but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.

\*\*\*

64

65

**Tithes & Offerings**  
Electronic gifts can be made  
by visiting our website:  
<http://give.onalaskaumc.org>

66



67

68

**Doxology**

69

*Praise God, from whom all  
blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures  
here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

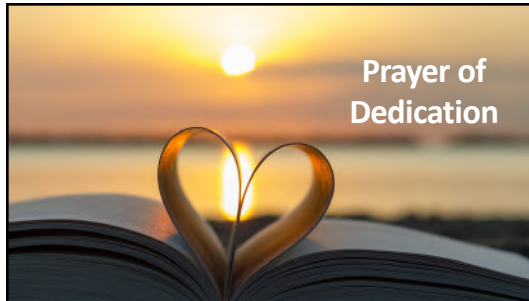
70

*Praise God, the source  
of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ,  
whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! \*\*\**

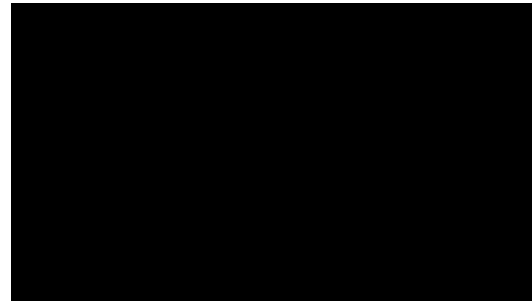
71

72

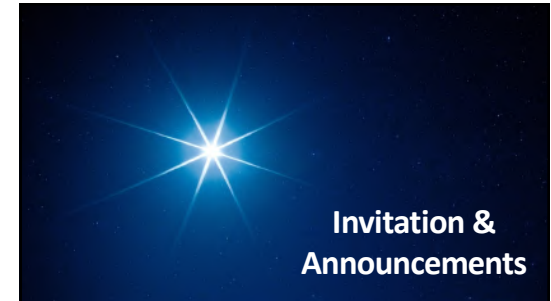




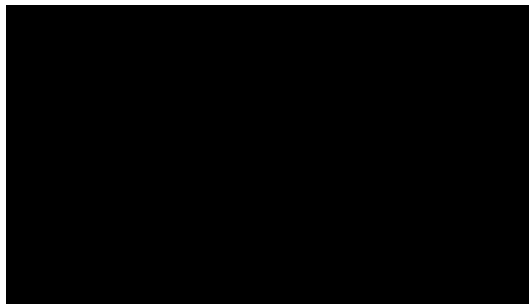
73



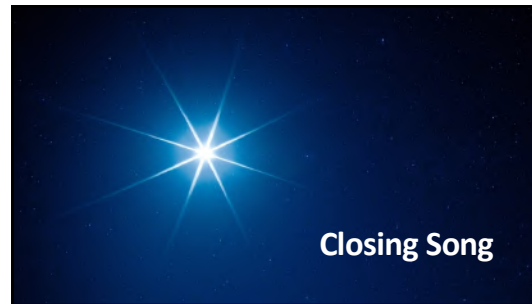
74



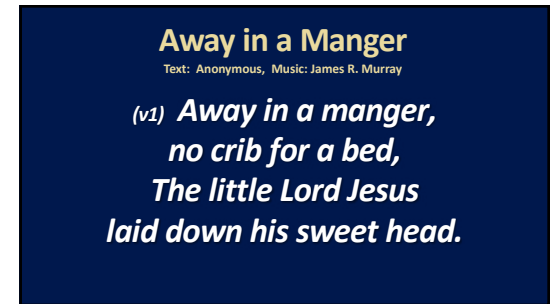
75



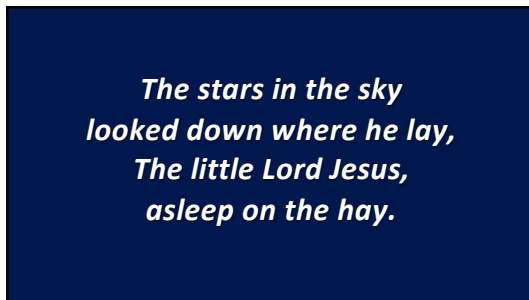
76



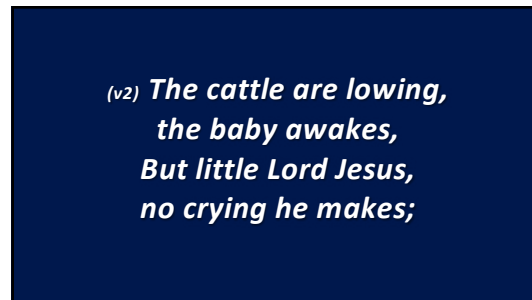
77



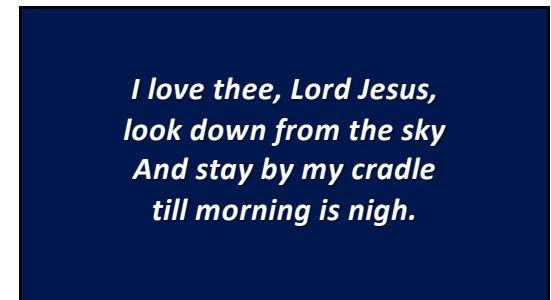
78



79



80



81

*(v3) Be near me, Lord Jesus,  
I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever,  
and love me, I pray;*

82

*Bless all the dear children  
in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven  
to live with thee there.  
\*\*\**

83

84

**Benediction**

85

86

**Choral Benediction**

87