

st. 4 trans. anon. (Lk. 2:6-20)

MUSIC: Franz Gruber, 1818

Hesston **United Methodist Church Christmas Eve Service December 24, 2023**



Festival of Lessons and Carols Entrance

Gathering Music

Opening Carol "There's a Song in the Air" UMH 249

(vs. 1, 3, 4)

Bidding Prayer Rev. Bryce Hansen

Blessing

Special Music Christmas Medley Outside the Bachs

Lessons and Carols

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Melinda Jantz
Hymn It Came Upon the Midnight Clear UMH 218

(vs. 1 & 4)

Second Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9 John Regier

Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs 1 & 2) UMH 230

Third Lesson: Luke 1:26-35, 38 Chad Lehman

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" (vs 1 & 4) UMH 238

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7 Allen Hahn

Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (vs 1 & 6) UMH 234

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-16 Jim Witt

Hymn "The First Noel" (vs 1 & 2) UMH 245

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-11 Kim Witt

Hymn "We Three Kings" (vs 1 & 5) UMH 254

Special Music O Holy Night Kaley Krug

Seventh Lesson: John 1:1-14 Celia Venable

Hymn "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" UMH 240



Christmas Eve Special Offering

Our offering this evening will be split three ways. Twenty-five percent of the funds donated will be offered to Safe Hope, which is the Domestic Violence shelter in Newton. Another twenty-five percent will be given to the homeless shelter, New Hope.

The remaining 50% will be sent to the United Methodist Committee on Relief to help aid those who have been affected by recent violence in the Holy Lands. UMCOR has set up five locations throughout the region to distribute food, medical supplies, and to administer mental health care.

The Hesston UMC missions team felt that allocating money to the Holy Land was a way we could support the region we sing about on this holiest of nights.

Lighting of the Candles

At this time, we will light candles to represent the light of Jesus Coming into the World. All are invited to form a circle around the Sanctuary as the music is played. As the light is passed, please tip the unlit candle to receive the light.

Hymn "Silent Night" See back

Benediction

Return to your homes glorifying God.
Reenter your lives basking in the light.
Be Angels!
Go tell the world all you have heard and seen tonight!

Hesston United Methodist Church wishes you all a very blessed Christmas.