

# Perry Hall United Methodist Church

Christmas Eve 2025

(\*\*Stand as you are able)

## WELCOME – RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

~ *Please sign the Ritual of Friendship and pass down the row. When everyone has signed, please pass it back to the center, noting those on your row that you may not know. Be sure to greet them after the service!* ~

**ORGAN PRELUDE** Prelude on “Immaculate Mary” Janis Wilson

**\*\*OPENING HYMN** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” vs.1,3,4,& 6 pg. 234 UMH

## \*\* CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Let us dance with delight in the Lord and let our hearts be filled with rejoicing,

P: for eternal salvation has appeared on the earth. Alleluia!

## OPENING PRAYER

O almighty God, by the birth of your holy child Jesus, you gave us a great light to dawn on our darkness. Grant that in his light we may see light. Bestow upon us that most excellent Christmas gift of love to all people, so that the likeness of your Son may be formed in us, and that we may have the ever brightening hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS WREATH

*Advent Reading and lighting of all candles*

**Congregational Response:** Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, that God may teach us the ways of peace, hope, joy, and trust

**Congregational Response:** The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth let there be love.

*All sing:* “Light the Advent Candle”, verse 5 TFWS 2090

## CHILDREN’S STORY (7:00 pm)

**ANTHEM** “Sing A Joyful Alleluia” Price & Besig

## THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS OF LOVE

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving Lord, accept these gifts as we join with your people throughout the earth to sing your praise and celebrate your gracious gift of Jesus’ birth. Bless these gifts that they may be used to promote peace and goodwill among all people. Bless those who give that we may be beacons of your love and may

work to advance your kingdom; through Jesus whose self-emptying love redeems us. Amen.

**OFFERTORY** “The Star Carol” Alfred Burt

**\*\*DOXOLOGY** pg. 95 UMH

**\*\*HYMN OF PREPARATION** “Angels We Have Heard on High” pg. 238 UMH

**\*\*SCRIPTURE** Luke 2:1-20 pg. 58 **The Gospel**  
*(You may stand or sit, as you are able, for the reading of the Gospel)*

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER**, attributed to Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus’ sake, Amen.

**THE MESSAGE** “A Great Light” Rev. Margery Schammel

## CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (Musical Setting A, pp. 17-18 UMH)

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is right, and a good and joyful thing.... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**All singing:** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

L: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.... in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All singing:** Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit.... All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

All singing: Amen, amen, amen.

#### GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*~Please follow the direction of the ushers. You will come up the center aisle to one of two stations to receive the bread and cup. You may move to the railing to partake, if you wish, leaving your cup in the wooden tray or place your empty cup in the bowls provided after partaking at the station. You may pray at the railing, if you wish. Please return to your seats by the side aisles. Please ask for gluten free bread, if needed. We will serve in their seats any who are not able to come to the front.~*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*The greeters will light their candles from the Christ candle. Please activate your glowsticks **before** the greeters come to the pews. The greeters will light the candle on the end of each pew. Each worshipper will **turn unlit candles sideways** to light them. Please keep all lit candles straight. During this time, let us sing "Silent Night" and then "Joy to the World". Please use extreme caution in the use of the candles. Assist any children whom you have given permission to hold a lighted candle. You may keep your glowsticks and please return your candles to the narthex at the end of the service. Thank you.*

All sing: "SILENT NIGHT" and "JOY TO THE WORLD" (see insert for words)

#### \*\*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

"Gloria"

Mozart



Acolytes – Leona Mager 7:00 pm

Catherine Reinhart 10:00 pm

#### STAFF

**Rev. Margery Schammel**

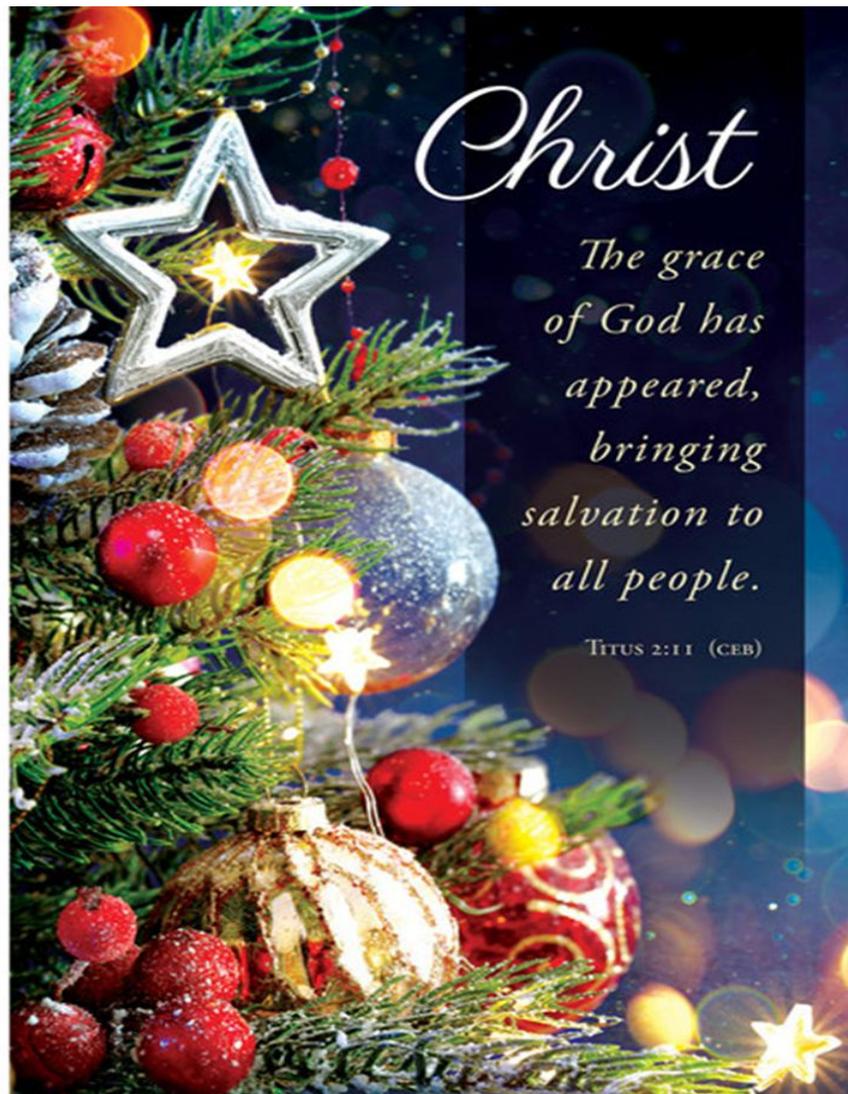
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# Perry Hall United Methodist Church



#### [PHUMC Mission Statement](#)

We are a Christ centered community compelled by God to share God's unconditional love with everyone, outwardly focused and growing in faith.

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