#### SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

## **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

May the God of holy nights be with you!

And also with you!

People of God, this is the night God transformed our lives.

This is the night we offer our hearts to God.

Children of Bethlehem, lift your voices in joy to God.

Our voices join with all who celebrate the Birth this night.

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

**SPECIAL MUSIC** 

Be Born in Me Olivia Webb, soloist Francesca Battistelli

## PRAYER AFTER ALL ARE SERVED

#### THE SHARING OF THE LIGHT

\*Reading John 1:1-14

\*Unison Prayer

We are...we could be...people of your light. So we pray for the light of your glorious presence as we wait for your appearing. We pray for the light of your wondrous grace as we attempt to cope with all that is around us. We pray for the gift of your light that will override our weariness. We pray that we may see and know and hear and trust that your light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome it. Amen.

\*HYMN #122

Silent Night

\*BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #134

Joy to the World

\*POSTLUDE

Angels from the Realms of Glory

arr. Ellson

# Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church December 24, 2024



<sup>\*</sup>Please stand if able

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE Away in a Manger arr. Ellson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Anghaarad Teague Dees

INTROIT / Wonder as I Wander

Men's Ensemble

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Sunwall family

Titus 2:11-14 Bible, page 262

### **UNISON PRAYER:**

Creator of both the darkness and the light, you sent Jesus to shine bright like the sun, lighting the way for all who walk in darkness. With the light of all the candles shining remind us of your presence among us, bringing us hope, joy, peace and love. Open our eyes to the wonder-filled world around us and may we marvel at Emmanuel's coming. May we wonder, go on and wonder in the days ahead. Amen.

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

When the world was dark and the city was quiet

You came.

You crept in beside us

And no one knew

Only the few who dared to believe

That God might do something different

Will you do the same this Christmas, Lord?

Will you come into the darkness and do something different

To save your people from death and despair?

Will you come into the dark corners and the quiet places of our lives?

Will you come into our lives, if we open them to you and do something different?

For this, tonight is the meeting place of heaven and earth.

For this, tonight is the stable in which God keeps the long promised appointment to meet God's blessed people.

For this, tonight is when a Child has been born for us, the light of the world.

And we have heard it from the hills and in the streets the Word Incarnate has come.

Christ has come, the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace, the King of Love, came down and crept in beside us.

**OFFERING** 

**OFFERTORY** The First Nowell Traditional

Faith Jacob, soloist

**LESSONS & CAROLS** 

**The Prophecy** Isaiah 11:1-9 Gerald Doyle

Carol Night of Silence arr. Ferguson

**Chancel Choir** 

**The Promise** Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7 Phillip Hubbard

Carol God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen Sarah McLachlan

Youth Choir

The Annunciation Bobby Vinton, Macy Neal

Carol O Holy Night Adolphe Adam

Olivia Webb, soloist

The Birth Luke 2:1-7 Tami Jacob

\*Hymn #123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

The Visitors Luke 2:8-20 Tami Jacob, Bobby Vinton, Joy Jacob

Carol Sweet Little Jesus Boy MacGimsey

Anghaarad Teague Dees, soloist

The Fulfillment Titus 3:4-7 Susie Hubbard

\*HYMN #113 Angels We Have Heard on High

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from a poem by Madeleine L'Engle)

God did not wait 'til the world was ready, 'til nations were at peace.

God came when the Heavens were unsteady and prisoners cried out for release.

God did not wait for the perfect time. God came when the need was deep and great.

God dined with sinners in all their grime, turned water into wine.

God did not wait 'til hearts were pure.

In joy God came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.

To a world like ours, of anguished shame, God came and God's Light would not go out.

God came to a world which did not mesh; to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.

In the mystery of the Word made Flesh, the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait 'til the world is sane to raise our songs with joyful voice,

For to share our grief, to touch our pain, God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice! Amen.