



Consider the following options to center yourself for worship:

**BREATHING PRAYER:** (Based on Hebrews 2:13)

*In For A Count Of 4: **I Will Put ....***

*Out For A Count Of 4: ... **My Trust in Him***

**REFLECT ON QUOTE**

*"Christmas is the eternal promise that light will always find its way into the darkness, no matter how small its beginning."* — Wayne Chirisa

**READ SCRIPTURES**

Isaiah 63:7-9 Matthew 2:13-23

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 28, 2025

**First Sunday After Christmas**

PRELUDE

*Carillon on "Come, All Ye Shepherds"*  
Jerry Bursch, Organ

arr. Gordon Young

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WELCOME / OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAITH AND SERVICE

Pastor Matt

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Melissa Pryor

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

Shout to the Lord your praises!

**Sing to the Lord the joy of this day!**

For God's might and power are established in the universe!

**God's transforming love beckons us.**

Come, let us worship God whose Light bursts forth into our darkness!

**Let us praise the God of salvation.**

(adapted, © Nancy Townley)

\*HYMN

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

UMH 240

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634

Song # 27738

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new born King!"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th' incarnate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new born King!"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Melissa Pryor

**God of steadfast presence, you walk with your people through exile and homecoming, turning wilderness into welcome. When shadows lengthen and the journey grows long, remind us of your saving love. When we resist your call to shelter and serve those in need, transform us with your grace. Even when fear closes our hearts to strangers, deepen our longing to turn toward those seeking refuge. Watch over us as you watched over the Christ child, that we may extend your mercy to the displaced and live as bearers of your redeeming love. Amen.**

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SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

\*HYMN

*There's A Song in the Air*

UMH 249

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634

Song # 272136

1. There's a song in the air!  
There's a star in the sky!  
There's a mother's deep prayer  
and a baby's low cry!

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

And the star rains its fire  
while the beautiful sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem  
cradles a King!

2. There's a tumult of joy  
o'er the wonderful birth,  
for the virgin's sweet boy  
is the Lord of the earth.  
Ay! the star rains its fire  
while the beautiful sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem  
cradles a King!

3. In the light of that star  
lie the ages impearled;  
and that song from afar  
has swept over the world.  
Every hearth is aflame,  
and the beautiful sing  
in the homes of the nations  
that Jesus is King!

4. We rejoice in the light,  
and we echo the song  
that comes down through the night  
from the heavenly throng.  
Ay! we shout to the lovely  
evangel they bring,  
and we greet in his cradle  
our Savior and King!

SCRIPTURE READINGS     Isaiah 63:7-9 Matthew 2:13-23  
Isaiah 63:7-9 (NRSVue)

Melissa Pryor

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,  
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,  
because of all that the Lord has done for us  
and the great favor to the house of Israel  
that he has shown them according to his mercy,  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.  
For he said, “Surely they are my people,  
children who will not act deceitfully,”  
and he became their savior  
in all their distress.  
It was no messenger or angel  
but his presence that saved them;  
in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSVue)

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

Pastor Matt

CHORAL RESPONSE

*Star-Child (verse 1)*

TFWS 2095

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634

Song # 1929319

Star child, earth Child,  
Go between of God,  
Love child, Christ child,  
Heaven's lightning rod,  
This year, this year  
Let the day arrive  
When Christmas comes for everyone  
Everyone alive!

RESPONDING IN FAITH

We live out our membership vows by offering our prayers, our presence, our service, our gifts, and our witness. In this way, we glorify God with our whole lives.

OFFERTORY

*Masters In This Hall*  
Jerry Bursch, Piano

arr. Mark Hayes

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\*DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* (UM Hymnal 94)

CCLI / Streaming: 1256912 / 20574634

CCLI Song # 3063266

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Mellisa Pryor

**Steadfast God of refuge and promise, even when the world makes no room, even when fear seems stronger than hope, you are with us. In the flight to Egypt, in the cries of grief, in the fragile beginnings of new life, you make a way. Receive these gifts, O God, as signs of our willingness to make room for your kingdom among us. Use what we bring—not just our treasure, but our time, our voices, our compassion—to heal what is broken, to protect the vulnerable, and to embody your saving love. We pray this in the name of Jesus, God with us. Amen.**

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\*HYMN

*He Is Born*

UMH 228

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Refrain:

He is born, the holy Child,  
play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!  
He is born, the holy Child,  
sing we all of the Savior mild.

1 Thru long ages of the past,  
prophets have foretold his coming;  
thru long ages of the past,  
now the time has come at last! **(Refrain)**

2 O how lovely, O how pure  
is this perfect child of heaven;  
O how lovely, O how pure  
gracious gift to humankind! **(Refrain)**

3 Jesus, Lord of all the world,  
coming as a child among us,

\*Please rise in body and spirit.

Jesus, Lord of all the world,  
grant to us thy heavenly peace. **(Refrain)**

\*BENEDICTION

Pastor Matt

\*HYMN OF PARTING

*Shalom to You*

CCLI / Streaming # 1256912 / 20574634

Song #1913569

Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through all your loving  
Christ be your shalom. Christ be your shalom.

POSTLUDE

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful  
Jerry Bursch, Organ

arr. Michael Burkhardt

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\*Please rise in body and spirit.



***Serving in Worship Today***

Greeter: Cathy Brocker  
Ushers: Linda Whitney & Sharon Ellis  
Liturgist: Melissa Pryor  
Music Director: Jerry Bursch  
Pastor: Rev. Matthew M. McPhee

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Video of today's worship can be found at [www.indioumc.com/media](http://www.indioumc.com/media)  
Contact the Church Office at 760-347-1046 or [office@indioumc.org](mailto:office@indioumc.org). Secure online  
contributions to the church can be made on our Church App  
or at [www.indioumc.org/give](http://www.indioumc.org/give).

**CALENDAR:**

- December 28**— You are invited to Coffee Fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.  
Thank you to Linda White for Coffee Fellowship
- December 28 – Youth Group** (grades 6-12) - **5:00 PM** in the youth room. Dinner provided.  
Contact Margie (youth director) or Melissa for more information.
- Dec. 29 –Jan. 2 – New Day Devotions 8:00 AM** via Zoom. (Link available in weekly  
e-news or by contacting the office)
- December 30 —Bell Choir Practice 3:00 PM** in the Sanctuary.
- December 30 —Koinonia Life Group 10:30 AM** offsite at Members Homes – Contact  
Howard Bollinger for more information.
- December 31– Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM** at Sloan's Restaurant in Indio.
- January 4 —Chancel Choir Practice 8:20 AM** in the Sanctuary
- January 4—Adult Bible Studies 9:00 AM** in the Adult Classroom
- January 4 – Worship 10:00 AM** in the Sanctuary, followed by Coffee Fellowship in the  
Fellowship Hall.

***Stay Connected – Download our App***



\*Please rise in body and spirit.