



**Mountainside United Methodist Church**  
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 Web page: [www.mountainsidemethodist.org](http://www.mountainsidemethodist.org)  
 Rev. John R. Rech – Pastor  
 – Lay Reader  
 9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
 December 18, 2011

## ***Celebration of Worship***

### ***Welcome!***

*We are honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. We pray that God blesses you with His presence as you have blessed us with yours. Today we have a special presentation from a variety of our music groups and individuals to help us celebrate this Advent Season*

*Please hold applause till the end of the service*

*Sing We Now of Christmas*

*Bell Choir*

**Prelude**

Dee Short & Karen Blackmore

*Sing We Now of Christmas-Reprise*

*Bell Choir*

**Welcome, Registration and Announcements**

Rev. John R. Rech

**\*Hymn**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymnal No. 234

*Glory to God in the Highest  
He Is Born*

*Choir/Bell Choir  
Bell Choir*

*Scriptures-In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and Word was God. Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am and to see my glory, the glory you have given me for you loved me before the creation of the world.*

*Christmas Fantasia*

*Piano/ Kaeli Manzanares*

*Greensleeves*

*Flute Trio-Alex Scheer, Carol Feeney, Karen Watson*

**Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Doug and Andree Peek

Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent Wreath – the candles of HOPE, PEACE, and JOY. Now we light the fourth candle of Advent. This is the candle of LOVE. Jesus demonstrated self-giving love in his ministry as the Good Shepherd. Advent is a time for sharing with others. It is a time to love as God loved us by giving us his most precious gift. In the Book of John chapter we find these words: *“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

**Prayer** (in unison) **We love because you first loved us. May we humble ourselves to receive this greatest of all gifts which is simply your love poured out from heaven. May we always remember to seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness. As we prepare this season for the celebration of Jesus' birth, fill our hearts with your love for the world. Amen.**

**\*Hymn** We Three Kings Hymnal No. 254

*Scriptures: I will give them a heart to know me that I am the Lord. They will be my people and I will be their God for they will return to me with all their heart. The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.*

*Do You Hear What I Hear? Small Group*  
*What Child is This? Joseph & Janet Vertrees*  
*Still, Still, Still Dora Scheer*

**Pastoral Prayer** Rev. Rech

**Offertory** O Come O Come Emmanuel Praise Band

**\*Doxology** Hymnal No. 95  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Scriptures: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in him shall have eternal life. This is the way to eternal life – to know you the only true God and Jesus Christ the one you sent to earth.*

*Carol of the Bells* Choir

*King Jesus is His Name* Choir

*Gloria in Excelsis Deo* Choir

**\*Hymn** Joy to the World Hymnal No. 246

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude** Sleigh Ride Choir

## Announcements

**Christmas Eve Service** - Please join us for Carols, Candlelight and Communion Service 7:00 p.m. Saturday December 24 Mountainside UMC Sanctuary. During this service we will be receiving an offering all of which will be going to missions. This special offering will be divided so that half of funds will be donated to our local East Mountain Food Pantry and half will be donated to a United Methodist mission outreach in Africa through the UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) that will help provide food and water for children and families.

**Christmas Day Service** - On Sunday December 25 Christmas Day we are holding one service at 10 a.m. There will be no Sunday School or Children's church.

**Flowers** this Sunday are given by Bob & Wanda Mason in honor of their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**We Want Your Used/Cancelled Stamps** - Diane Turner is collecting cancelled postage stamps (foreign also) for the Alliance Stamp Ministry in Ft. Myers, Florida to be sold and the money used to purchase Christian materials in Spanish. Please cut a border of ¼" to 1/3" around each stamp. There is a gift bag in the foyer for recycling them. If you have any questions, contact Diane at 286-0930.

**Staff Christmas gifts** - The SPRC committee will be wearing Christmas bows on their name tags Sunday so that you can identify them. If you would like to contribute to the cash gifts we wish to give to our pastor and church staff for Christmas, please look for a SPRC member Sunday morning to make that contribution. Thank you very much. The SPRC committee.

## THIS WEEK at Mountainside UMC

### Today, Sunday, December 18

*4th Sunday of Advent*  
 9:00 a.m. Classic Worship  
 10:15 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

### Monday, December 19

12:00 p.m. AA  
 6:00 p.m. Women's AA

### Tuesday, December 20

10:00 a.m. EM Food Pantry  
 5:30 p.m. Finance Meeting  
 7:00 p.m. AA

### Wednesday, December 21

12:00 p.m. AA  
 6:00 p.m. AA  
 No Bell Choir Practice  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

### Thursday, December 22

9:30 a.m. Bible Study & Pot Luck  
 6:30 p.m. CWS Band Practice  
 7:00 p.m. AA

### Friday, December 23

10:00 a.m. AI-Anon  
 12:00 p.m. AA  
 6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering

### Saturday, December 24

*Christmas Eve*  
 7:00 p.m. Carols, Candlelight and Communion Service



### **NEXT SUNDAY**

### **Sunday, December 25**

*Christmas Day*  
 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
 No Children's Church  
 No Sunday School  
 No Contemporary Worship