

ORDER OF SERVICE

"[Religion] is not something else to be *got*, to be *added*, but is a new life of those faculties which you have." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

PRELUDE **Skating** -- Vince Guaraldi

INTROIT **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** -- 13th century hymn

CHALICE LIGHTING Number 480 (Reeves Bauer, chalice lighter)

* HYMN Number 225 (standing) **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

* RESPONSIVE READING Number 531 (standing) **The Oversoul**

* SONG OF EXALTATION (standing) Genevan Psalter, 1551
**All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing ye to God with cheerful voice;
Come serve with mirth, God's praise forth tell.
Join ye together and rejoice. Amen.**

READING Luke 2:8-20 (Be not afraid.)

* INTERLUDE **What Child is This?** -- arr. by Vince Guaraldi

READING from Kitchen Table Wisdom by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D.

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION

MOMENTS OF SILENCE (A time for contemplation and prayer.)

ANTHEM **Happy Hanukkah!** -- Mary Donnelly

OFFERTORY **It came upon the Midnight Clear**
-- E. H. Sears, R. S. Willis, arr. by J. Innes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN 237 (standing) **The First Nowell**

SERMON **My Christmas Faith**
The Reverend Burton D. Carley

CHORAL RESPONSE **Love and Joy** --Traditional

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE **Deck the Hall** -- Mac Huff

* Persons arriving late may be seated at these times.

Large Print or Braille Hymnals, and Assisted Hearing Devices may be requested from the ushers.

Web Site: Check out our web site at www.churchoftheriver.org. You will find relevant information about our church, including a calendar and the weekly newsletter.

To receive the newsletter and/or have a nametag, please visit the welcoming table at the back of the church to sign our guest register.

A Crying Room is available in the Beacon Room (library) of the Channing Wing. You can hear the service while rocking the little one.

The Care Coordinator for December is Marti Holladay at 725-4103.

SUNDAY MORNING GROUPS: The Quest Group meets in the Beacon Room at 9:30 a.m. to ponder "The Bible - Down and Dirty". The Questions of Faith group meets next week at 10 a.m. in the Potter Wing to discuss *The Evolution of God* by Robert Wright. For information contact Carol Straughn at 387-4850. All welcome!

What are you called to do? Four opportunities: (1) Soup Kitchen (Dan Bing at 763-2384); (2) COR meals-on-wheels (Jeane Umbreit at 374-9114); (3) Shady Grove Elementary School (Juliet Wischmeyer at 219-5817); (4) Hospitality Hub (Ellen Klyce at 323-0123).

SERMONS AVAILABLE: CD's for \$5 or on loan from the library. Print copies on the Welcome Table. PODCASTS on the website by Tuesday.

IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER ROOM--THE BETSY JEWELRY TRUNK SHOW REDUX

HOSPITALITY HUB GOODIE BAGS By Wed., Dec. 16th; deliver to 146 Jefferson (9 to 3, M to F) fruit, small packages of snacks, cereal or power bars, socks, gently used or new wallets. Help the homeless have a holiday gift. For information call Beatrice at 522-1808.

Please join us in the Mississippi River Room for our traditional CAROLING AROUND THE TREE to include the 12 Days of Christmas sing-a-long with props, and holiday music by the Shady Grove Elementary School Chorus.

GREEN TIP FOR DECEMBER: By reducing your shower time by one minute each day 2,190 pounds of water will not have to be purified, thereby reducing your greenhouse gas emissions by 4,700 pounds per year.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY: 4:30 reception, 5:30 service.