



HEYWARD STREET UMC

www.heywardst.church

December 29, 2024

Welcome and Call to Worship

J – Jesus is born

When Mary said, “Let it be”,

When Joseph did as the angel commanded,

When Elizabeth affirmed, “Blessed be this child”,

When shepherds rushed to meet a new baby,

When wise ones followed the star,

**they were claiming the life giving, hope abiding, love
renewing joy of the birth of the Christ child.**

***When Jesus was born, the joy in heaven was so great it
could not be contained.” Uchtdorf***

Christmas Hymn *Joy to the World* UMH 234

O – Our joy

Lighting of the Christ Candle

In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again?

Let us start here and now.

Let us begin with hope accompanied by risk.

Let us begin with peace soaked in assurance.

Let us begin with joy enveloped in open arms.

Let us begin with love encircled in hearts.

As we light the Christ candle, let us recall that *when we
feel a peaceful joy, that's when we are near truth.* Rumi

Scripture Isaiah 55:12-13 Pew Bible p 686

Receiving of the Offering

Hymn *Toda la Tierra* UMH 210

Sermon Joy! Rev. Blom

Song *Noel* Praise Team

Y – Your Joy

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Joy is the simplest form of gratitude. Karl Barth

- Attached to the bulletin are slips of paper and a quilt square. On each slip of paper, write an event, person, or circumstance which gave you great joy this Christmas season. Follow directions to pin your joys onto the woven frame at front.
- After you complete your joys, please add color to the quilt square using colored pencils.

Quilt square: From a center point, tulip-like flowers stretch and bloom, referencing the Ralph Waldo Emerson quote, “The earth laughs in flowers.” Copied from *Sanctified Art*

Christmas Hymn *Go, Tell It On the Mountain* UMH 251

Benediction

As we leave this place, let us carry joy in our hearts

for when Christ was born

the joy could not be contained.

Let us seek joy

because when we are near joy

we are in the presence of truth.

And let us lift our thanksgivings to God

because gratitude is our best expression of joy.

Let us go in joy to love and serve our Lord. Amen.



The beauty of flowers bring joy . Add color to the quilt square. Or doodle on each bloom.

