***LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES**
Please tip the unlit candle to receive the flame from your neighbor to avoid spilled wax. Moms and dads, please use discretion when allowing young children to hold lit candles. Special candles are available for the kids.

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Silent Night"* **#239 UMH VERSES 1-4**

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Joy to the World"* **#246 UMH VERSES 1-4**

POSTLUDE

Please join us now for our Christmas Eve Meal in the Fellowship Hall

Pastor Dorie Hall
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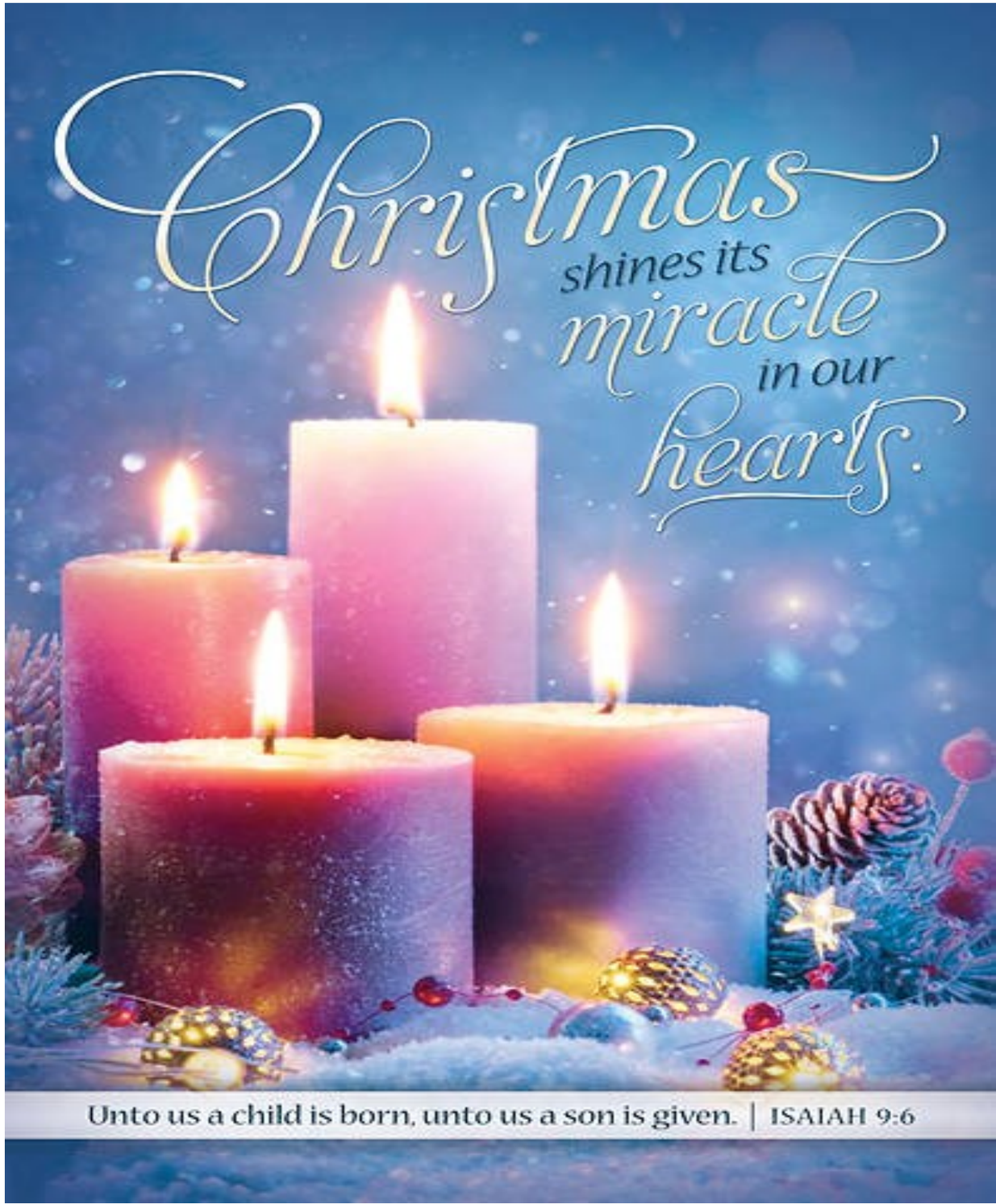

BLESSINGS EVERYONE! ~ LUVERNE UMC CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE ~ DECEMBER 24, 2025 ~ 5PM

**Indicates to stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

Welcome to our Christmas Eve Service which serves to be a special time to welcome a tiny baby, born to bring us peace and joy and eternity. We invite you to use some quiet time in preparing for this service. Allow yourself to settle in, find that place of peace, listen to the voice of the baby boy born into the world to bring us life. Open your hearts this night, to receive the Christmas message.

OUR CONGREGATION BEGINS WITH SONG *"O Come All Ye Faithful"* **#234 UMH VERSES 1 AND 2**

WHO LOVES JESUS?

UNITED WE SING *"Christmas Miracle Medley"* **PRAISE TEAM SONG**

***CALL TO WORSHIP, responsively,**

L: May the Lord be with you,

C: And also with you.

L: The impossible is about to happen in a stable. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

C: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined!

L: This is the evening when creation stood still and held its breath, for God was doing the most unbelievable, dangerous thing.

C: This is the evening when God embraced humanity from the inside, as one of us, from birth to death.

L: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

C: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Amen!

Beloved, tonight we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah *" For a child has been born for us, a song given to us: authority rests upon his shoulders: and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"* (Isaiah 9:6).

Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby. *"His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this"* (Isaiah 9:7)

We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God's salvation wherever we go.

(Light all five candles of the Advent wreath)

A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Breath of Heaven"* **PRAISE TEAM SONG**

SCRIPTURE **Luke 2:1-16**
Page 1026 NIV

CHRISTMAS HOMILY **THE BEST MIRACLE OF ALL!**

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Come and See"* **PRAISE TEAM SONG**

OUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY** **#95 UMH**

OFFERTORY PRAYER, *in unison

O God, as we offer our gifts today, we remember the birth of your Son, Jesus, and the joy that filled the world when he came to dwell among us. Just as the angels proclaimed his birth with glad tidings of great joy, we offer our gifts with thankful hearts. May these offerings reflect our joy in Christ, our Savior, and our desire to share his love with others. We pray that these resources will be used to bring hope and peace, just as Christ brought hope to the world. In his precious name, we pray. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER WITH RESPONSE AND LORDS PRAYER

OUR RESPONSE

Loving God, with joyful hearts we thank you for the miracle of Christmas. We thank you for coming to us this night and every night in the living flesh of that little boy. We praise you for our heritage of Christmas devotion and special worship in music and word.

We thank you yet again for reminding us of the true miracle of this season. Let us remember Jesus not only as a baby in a manger, but God Incarnate, who suffered with us, died for us and because of us and, by your power, rose to new and deathless life. For him, above all, do we offer you our hearts of love this Christmas Eve, just as Jesus taught us so now we pray. Our Father.....