#### Welcome to

## Clinton First United Methodist Church ORDER OF WORSHIP

Enter into Worship, Expecting God to touch your Heart; Worship the One who Welcomes You with wide open arms!

If you are seated at or near the back of the Sanctuary, please sign and pass the attendance registry forward.

(\* Denotes standing, as you are able)

**GATHERING PRAISE** 

"We Three Kings"
"Go Tell It on the Mountain"
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"
"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"
"Silent Night"

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Carlson, Liturgist

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather to praise you O God, for all the things we can see, and sometimes understand: the sun, moon and stars; the clouds and changing weather:

We join in their eternal chorus of praise to God.

We gather to praise you, O God, for all the things that we cannot see or understand: all heaven's angels, outer space; and the skies above us;

We join in their eternal chorus of praise to God.

We gather to praise you O God, for all the things in life that we experience: the created world, people of all ages and circumstances, all God's creations.

We join in their eternal chorus of praise to God: whose name is glorious, and whose ways are holy. Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE "Angels from the Realms of Glory" UMH#220

#### \*OPENING PRAYER

Holy Creator, loving God, we thank you for the special gift of your child Jesus. Generous Creator, giving God, with the moon and stars, and all that lives, we join in praise and thanks! Amen.

#### A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN

**Eric Weeks** 

#### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

**Clinton UMC Choir** 

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" #229
""O Come All Ye Faithful" #234
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" #240
"Angels WE Have Heard on High" #374
"Joy to the World" #392

**READING FROM PSALM** 

Psalm 148

Liturgist

#### **PRAYER & SHARE TIME**

Joys and Concerns
Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING Liturgist

Offertory

\*Offertory Response "Doxology" Hymnal #95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise Him, all creatures
here below, Praise Him, above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen

\*Offertory Prayer (Liturgist)

**MESSAGE** 

Mr. Mark Eutsler, FCJ Coach

"The Nativity of the Lord: Close Encounters of the Incarnational Kind"

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

\*CLOSING HYMN
\*BENEDICTION

"What Child Is This?"

**UMH #219** 

May the birth of Jesus be renewed in our lives.

May the Spirit of Jesus guide our words and thoughts.

May the life of Jesus inspire us to follow in the way of hope.

POSTLUDE "There's A Song in the Air"

Our Mission is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Our Vision is to share the LOVE, FAITH, and SERVICE of Jesus Christ with our community.

#### CHURCH ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING WEEK

December 29th -January 4th

Today-- 9:15 Praise Gathering

Message: "The Nativity of the Lord: Close Encounters of the Incarnational Kind"

10:45am Sunday School all ages

Lamplighters-- Studying- Be Loyal: Gospel of Matthew— Lower Level Pathfinders—Studying—Life and Ministry of Jesus—Lower Level Wesleyan Class—Adult Bible Study Quarterly-- Library—Main Level Youth – Upper Level

Preschool- Fifth Grade "One Room Sunday School" — Upper Level

Monday December 30<sup>th</sup> – Cluster Children's New Year Eves Eve Party.

Pastor Susan will be on vacation from December 26- January 3. If you need pastoral care please contact Audrey Lientz. Rev. Colleen Harden is on call for Pastor Susan.

Mark your calendars-- Leadership Advance – We've Moving Forward Saturday January 18—9:00amm-4:30pm at Mike's Motor Lodge—2<sup>nd</sup> Drive North of the Lyford Y. All Leaders are encouraged to attend—leadership development for 2014 and the future.

### **Serving Today**

PASTOR Rev. Susan Martin

Liturgist Karen Carlson Hosts Juanita and Carter Crouch Brenda Alexander and Ruth Hollingsworth



# Clinton First United Methodist Church



## December 29, 2013

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