

# Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2024

10:00 pm

PRELUDE	Connor Ricotta
INTROIT	Senior Choir; Catherine Caton, harp "In the Bleak Midwinter"
CHRISTMAS EVE GREETING	Rev. Beth Malone
PRAYER FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON	Rev. Beth Malone
ANTHEM	Senior Choir; Catherine Caton, harp "Angels Choir"
LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE	Jim & Shiela Swanger
SPECIAL MUSIC	Righteous Ringers "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"
PRAYER OF DEDICATION	Rev. Beth Malone
OFFERING HYMN	Righteous Ringers "He Is Born, the Child Divine"

## Christmas Readings and Carols

FIRST LESSON	<b>Isaiah 9:2-7</b>	Bill Lewis
CAROL	"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"	#218
SECOND LESSON	<b>Luke 1:26-38</b>	Pastor Beth
CAROL	"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	#230
3RD LESSON	<b>Luke 2:1-14</b>	Bill Lewis
CAROL	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	#211, v. 1, 2, & 4
4TH LESSON	<b>Luke 2:15-20</b>	Pastor Beth
CAROL	"The First Noel"	#245, v. 1 - 2
PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST		

HOLY COMMUNION	Rev. Beth Malone
PASTOR'S BLESSING	Rev. Beth Malone

### ✦ RECEIVING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (*lighting of our candles*)

*The pastor will light her candle from the Christ candle and will move down the center aisle lighting the candles of the people seated at the end of each pew. Each worshipper will turn and light the candle of the person seated next to him/her.*

✦ HYMN	"Silent Night"	#239
		Catherine Caton, harp

*You may extinguish your candle after the hymn and return it to the table by the doors as you leave the sanctuary.*

✦ Please stand for these portions of the service if possible.

Thank you for joining us tonight as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We invite you to worship with us next Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at a special Coming Together service, beginning at 10:00 am, and continue to worship with us on Sundays at our 8:30 Worship and Praise Service or our 10:30 Traditional Service.

We would like to thank Rev. Beth Malone and Cynthia Towler and the Senior Choir; Sandi Szymanski and the Righteous Ringers; Connor Ricotta; Catherine Caton; Jim and Shiela Swanger, Bill Lewis; and Matthew Rosier, Acolytes, for leading the worship service tonight and for sharing their Christmas Eve with us.



We invite you to support the mission and ministries of Geneseo UMC. In addition to traditional giving, we have an online giving option. Scan this QR code with your mobile phone's camera to be taken to our giving page or visit [www.geneseomethodist.org/giving-back-to-god](http://www.geneseomethodist.org/giving-back-to-god).



## Coming Together Worship Service

Sunday, December 29th

10:00 am (no 8:30 service)

Rev. Shiela Swanger will be sharing the message at this special service, welcoming the Wise Men.

## Watchnight Service and New Year's Eve Fellowship

Tuesday, December 31st

9:00 pm - Watchnight Service

Bring in the new year with a special "Watchnight Service" in the sanctuary, to reflect on the past year and prepare for the new one. It will be followed by a time of family fun, food, and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Friends (new and old), fellowship, and games! Bring your favorite board game or card game and join the fun!

The tradition of Watch Night services can be traced back to the early 18th century, when Moravian churchgoers would hold vigils to reflect on the past year and look forward to the new one. The practice was adopted by John Wesley for his Methodist followers.



### MINISTER

Rev. Beth Malone

### LAY LEADERS

Bill Lewis  
Peggy Oltz

### SUPPORT TEAM

Administrative Assistant - Kathy Rosier  
Custodian - Dave Woodworth  
Nursery Attendant - Marissa Ross

### MUSIC TEAM

Director of Music - Cynthia Towler  
Accompanist - Connor Ricotta  
Praise Team - Gwyneth Jones-  
Wenninger  
Bell Choir - Sandi Szymanski  
Children's Choir - Beth Feuerstein

# Geneseo United Methodist Church



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10:00 pm

Geneseo United Methodist Church  
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Geneseo, NY 14454  
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