

*Lacey United Methodist Church*  
*2021 Christmas Eve Service ~ 10PM*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

**Eric De La Cruz**

God of birth, God of light,  
in this time of song and prayer and silence,  
**reawaken in us the awe of Christmas.**

As we hear again the story of a young family and a surprising  
visitor, **remind us that we are called to respond to you in  
unexpected ways.**

And when we leave this place,  
**may we be willing to sing praises  
for a young woman and man who said YES  
and the birth that we prepare to celebrate.**

We pray all this in the name of the child and of our savior.  
Amen.

**\*Hymn**            **O Come, All Ye Faithful**    *UMH 234 vs. 1&6*

**First Lesson ~ Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19, 22:15-18**

**Eric De La Cruz**

**\*Hymn**            **Emmanuel, Emmanuel**    *UMH 204*

**Second Lesson ~ Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**        **Dawn Marie Kuch**

**Christmas Wreath Lighting**

**Rose Coram & Cynthia Pedemonti**

**\*Hymn**            **Advent Song**    *FWS 2090 vs. 5*

**Third Lesson ~ Luke 1:26-35**                **Betty Carhart**

**Hymn**    **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**    *UMH 240 vs. 1&3*

**Fourth Lesson ~ Luke 2:1-16**                **Sally Potter**

**Message: "The Faith Found at the Manger"**    **J. Campbell**

**Anthem**                                        **A Cradle, Cross, and Crown**  
**Offered by Sherry Exel and Cynthia Pedemonti**

**Fifth Lesson ~ Matthew 2:1-11**                **Rich Rosfjord**

**Christmas Offering Prayer**

Holy God, as we gather this evening, all our attention is  
focused on a baby, lying in a makeshift bed in an "it-will-  
have-to-do" stable. It's not lost on us that you sent your  
Son, our Savior, into the world among the poorest of the  
poor and told us: "This will be a sign to you." As we  
present gifts to you, we pray that they might reach those  
in the greatest need, that they might lift those in the  
deepest despair, and that they might bring peace and  
compassion to those who find themselves amidst conflict.  
**We pray this in the name of that Holy Child, Jesus the  
Christ, our Savior and Redeemer! Amen.**

*Please leave your Christmas Offering in the manager as you  
exit the front doors of the church to bring Joy to the World.*

**\*Christmas Offering Carol**

**Joseph's Lullaby**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Eric De La Cruz**

Holy God, you promised to do great things for us,  
yet we do not trust you.

You extend your mercy to us, yet we do not trust you.

You lift up the humble, you fill the hungry with good things,  
and yet we still do not trust you.

Forgive us, and help us to trust in the promises you have given  
us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*(Time for Silent Confession and Reflection)*

**Words of Assurance**

**Eric De La Cruz**

Even now—yes, even in this very moment, God comes to us,  
bringing hope, bringing forgiveness, bringing grace as freely  
offered gifts to us. May we open our hearts to the God who is  
with us, and receive the gifts which have been offered to us.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Celebration of Holy Communion**

**Communion Music Offered by Betty Carhart**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

*Please remain seated while the ushers bring the communion  
elements to you.*

**Sixth Lesson ~ John 1:1-14**

**Diane Collins**

**Candle Lighting**

*The ushers will light the candle of the individual at the end of the row, please light the candle of the person next to you, as you share the light of Christ.*

**Hymn**

**Silent Night UMH 239**

**Dismissal with Blessing**

**Postlude**

**Joy to the World UMH 246 vs. 1&4**

*Please leave your Christmas Offering in the manager as you exit the front doors of the church to bring Joy to the World.*

*Lacey United Methodist Church*

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