

# South Hayward United Methodist Church

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for  
the Transformation of the World*

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE**

*December 24, 2012 – 7:00 PM*

**\*\*Those Who Are Able, Please Stand**

**(PLEASE, silence your Cell Phone)**

## WE ENTER TO WORSHIP

### **PRELUDE & PROCESSION OF THE LIGHT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*Christmas Carols*

*SHUMC WIND & STRING ENSEMBLE*

### **LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES/ CHRIST CANDLE**

*Ruth Ayroso, Celisse & Jake De Ocera*

### **WELCOME**

*Linda De Ocera*

The message of God's incarnate love is so powerful in the familiar Luke story that even the once-a-year church folks get it time and time again. We are called to make sure that visitors and regulars alike hear the compelling invitation to live in the light that God has shined into the darkness. This means not just hearing the Christmas story, but telling its good news to others until we ourselves become reflections of Christ's light throughout the year.

### **\*\*INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**Celebrate the coming of the Light.**

O sing to the Lord a new song, God's salvation is at hand.

**Celebrate the coming of Salvation.**

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

**Celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people.

**Celebrate the coming of Christ!**

### **INTROIT**

### **\*\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*"Joy to the World"*

*UMH#246*

### **\*\*INVOCATION (Unison)**

God of light and love, shine upon us this Christmas Eve and in the year ahead. Guide us out of darkness and into your joyous light. May our lives reflect your glorious love, that others may see your Christmas Spirit in us, each and every day of our lives. Amen.

## WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD FOR US

### **\*\*PEACE OF CHRIST IS GIVEN TO ALL**

As you greet those around you, offer these words:

**"Hear the good news!"**

Respond in kind:

**"A Savior is born!"**

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

*"O, Holy Night"*

*SHUMC Chancel Choir*

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

*Luke 2:1-20*

*Linda De Ocera*

### **CHRISTMAS REFLECTION**

*"The Controversy"*

*Pastor Elmar*

### **PASTORAL PRAYER/DISCIPLE'S PRAYER**

## WE OFFER OUR SELVES & OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*(Please come to the altar and place your offering envelopes in the basket by the manger, get a candle then proceed to the quad area)*

### **OFFERTORY**

### **OFFERING**

## WE DEPART TO SERVE

### **\*\*HYMN OF BENEDICTION**

*"Silent Night"*

*UMH#239*

### **\*\*BENEDICTION**