

Libretto
Christmas Love Feast

Sussex Carol, Traditional English Carol, arr. Mack Wilberg-2009, words by Bishop Luke Wadding – 1686

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring. News of our merciful King's birth! Then why should men on earth be so sad, since our Redeemer made us glad. All for to gain our liberty? When sin departs before His grace, then life and health come in its place. Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King. All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night: "Glory to God and peace to men, now and forever. Amen!"

Once in Royal David's City, words by Cecil Frances Alexander, arr. Mack Wilberg (2009) This arrangement is currently unpublished and on loan to Memorial UMC Chancel Choir by the arranger and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Salt Lake City, UT.

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed. Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child. He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all, and His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall, with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love; for that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above. And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

Candlelight Carol, words and music by John Rutter – 1985

How do you capture the wind on the water? How do you count all the stars in the sky? How can you measure the love of a mother, or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Refrain: Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star glow, shine on His cradle till breaking of dawn. Gloria, Gloria, in Excelsis Deo! Angels are singing the Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore Him, nations proclaim Him their Lord and their Savior, but Mary will hold him and sing Him to sleep.

Find Him at Bethlehem laid in a manger: Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay, Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation: A Child with His mother that first Christmas Day.

Star of Bethlehem, words by Leslie Bricusse, Music by John Williams, (for the feature film: Home Alone 2), arr. Tom Fettke-1990

Star of Bethlehem, shining bright, bathing the world in heavenly light. Let the glow of Your distant glory fill us with hope this Christmas night. Star of innocence, star of goodness, gazing down since time began tell us all the timeless story: God in love is born again.

Star of Bethlehem, star on high, miracle of the midnight sky, let your luminous light from heaven enter our hearts and make us fly. Star of happiness, star of wonder, you see everything from afar. Fix our hearts upon the future, make us wiser than we are. Star of beauty help us see; whisper your wisdom tenderly. Christ has come to set us free; light of all the world is He. Star of gentleness help us see; whisper your wisdom tenderly. Christ has come to set us free; light of all the world, light of the world is He.

Suo Gan, words by David Warner, Welsh Lullaby, arr. Mack Wilberg 2009

Come to me, Infant Holy, eyes of wonder softly close, tiny hand release my finger, weary head receive repose. Sleep, and love arises in me, waking hope till joy overflows. Lead me, little child so tender, to the place I long to go. Be with me, O Savior Holy, may my faith in Thee increase. Till I hear around us winging seraphs singing heavenly peace. Then, I'll walk through night and shadow by the light that shines in Thee. Flowing as a stream forever to the blessed fruitful tree. Singing heavenly peace forever. Sleep. Sleep. Sleep. Sleep.

Night of the Father's Love, by Pepper Choplin, 2006 (Divinum Mysterium)

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega. He, the source the ending, He. Of the things that are, that have been and the future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

Silent Night, Holy Night, all is calm, all is bright. 'Round yon virgin, mother and Child. Holy Infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent Night, Holy Night, shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Silent Night, Holy Night, Son of God, Love's pure light; radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus Lord at Thy birth.

Silent Night, Holy Night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing. Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Wesley Blessing Teapot

The teapot being used on the altar tonight is an exact replica of the teapot presented to John Wesley in 1761 by Josiah Wedgwood, famous "Potter to the Queen". The original teapot was used by Mr. Wesley for thirty years, and the blessings which appear on either side were first used at the Kingswood School in 1740, a school founded by George Whitefield and John Wesley. The blessings were sung at Wesley's early breakfast and with his preachers as they stood before the meal.

This teapot was presented to Memorial Church in 1977 by Mrs. J. Glenn Pennington in honor of her grandson, John Raymond Pennington.

In Appreciation

Deep appreciation is expressed to Bick and Bonnie Craig and all those who helped in the preparation of our Love Feast candlelight service and those who are serving.

Love Feast Tea Dispensers

The Love Feast Tea Dispensers have been given by Pauline Phillips W. Cox in memory of her grandparents, Bessie Fuller Phillips and Dr. Charles Hoover Phillips.

Love Feast Cups

The Love Feast cups were presented in 1978 to the congregation of Memorial United Methodist Church, to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of Dr. Nathaniel Walker by Mrs. Walker and children: Charles, Pauline, Elizabeth, Virginia, and Josephine.

In 1981, additional Love Feast Cups were presented by Dr. Carson Cox, III, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Leonard, and Mr. and Mrs. Carson Cox, Jr. The cups are replicas of those which have been used for two hundred fifty years in Love Feast Services in both the Moravian and Methodist churches.

Love Feast Trays

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Leonard (Jane), Mr. and Mrs. Carson Cox, Jr. and Dr. Carson Cox, III have presented wooden Love Feast Trays to the congregation of Memorial United Methodist Church in memory of Ethel Elizabeth McCormick Cox.

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
THOMASVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Ministers

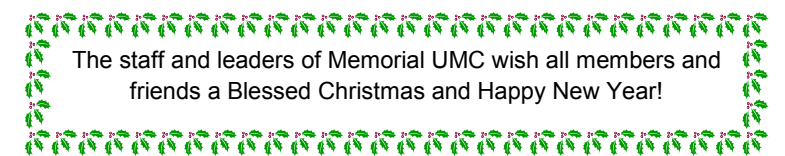
IVAN H. M. PEDEN
Senior Minister

PEGGY A. FINCH
Associate Minister

RODNEY W. DENTON
Associate Minister

LYNDA C. HEPLER
Minister of Children & Families

December Nineteenth, Two Thousand Ten
Candlelight Love Feast



The staff and leaders of Memorial UMC wish all members and friends a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!

ORDER OF WORSHIP
MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CANDLELIGHT LOVE FEAST

Sunday, December 19, 2010 **7:00 pm**

Prelude *A Boy Was Born* Mr. Brian Vannoy, Organist
Titcomb

***Processional** *Sussex Carol* Chancel Choir and
arr. Mack Wilberg Ensemble

Anthem *Once In Royal David's City* Chancel Choir and
arr. Mack Wilberg Ensemble

Welcome and Greetings The Reverend Doctor Ivan H. M. Peden

Advent Liturgy The Reverend Peggy A. Finch

Minister: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you as we wait in joyful hope
for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Minister: Come, Lord Jesus!

People: Come, quickly!

Minister: Let us live justly and devoutly in this world
as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior,
Jesus Christ.

**People: For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Minister: As Advent draws to a close, let us pray for the faith
that opens our lives to the Spirit of God ...

**ALL: Almighty God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth
when Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift
our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which
announces Christ's glory, and open our minds to receive
the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Anthem *Candlelight Carol* Chancel Choir and
John Rutter Ensemble

Scripture Lesson *Luke 2:1-20* The Reverend Lynda C. Hepler

Offering
Offertory Anthem *Star of Bethlehem* Chancel Choir and
arr. John Williams Ensemble

***Offertory Response** *What Can I Give Him?*
***“What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part, yet what I can I give him: give my
heart.”***

*Prayer of Dedication

The Reverend Rodney W. Denton

The Love Feast

Serving of the Tea and Rolls (The organist will play as the feast is
being served. Please hold your cup and bread until all have been served
and the Love Feast Hymn and Wesley Grace have been sung)

The Love Feast Hymn by Carson Cox, Jr.
***We hold this sacred love feast here, a service full of love. We worship
with these Christians true, in praise to God above. Called by our God to
be of those, who into the whole world would go to tell of Jesus everywhere,
because God's love is so.***

The Wesley Grace
***Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored; thy
creatures bless, and grant that we may feast in paradise with thee.***

An Anthem for the Feast *Suo Gan* Chancel Choir and
arr. Mack Wilberg Ensemble

Collection of the Cups

*Scripture Reading *John 1:1-14* Dr. Peden
Minister: This is the Gospel of our Lord
People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Distribution of the Light Mr. Vannoy

***Benediction** Reverend Finch
(Following the benediction, the congregation follows clergy in recession out of the
Sanctuary, carrying the Light of Christ into the world. Please leave the sanctuary when
directed by the ushers)

Recessional Anthem *Night of the Father's Love/Silent Night*
(arr. Pepper Choplin)
(The congregation is asked to stand and sing as directed by Mr. Cates. Upon singing the
third verse, lift your candle which represents the Light of Christ.)

****Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright, round yon virgin
mother and child, Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.***

***Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream
from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ the Savior is
born, Christ the Savior is born!***

***Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; radiant beams
from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at
thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth.***

***Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let
us sing. Alleluia to our king; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior
is born!***

LOVE FEAST
Choir and Orchestra

Bill Cates Brian Vannoy
Conductor **Organist**

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Basses
Burroughs, Ruth	Goings, Christina	Burkehart, Byron	Burrow, David
Carmichael, Marie	Highsmith, Florence	Hibbits, Taylor	Holladay, Tom
Cates, Kathy	Lackey, Sandra	Holladay, Neal	Langfitt, Butch
Fralei, Kristin	Langfitt, Sue	Oldaker, Jarry	Norman, Mark
Fralei, Kristin	Newsome, Susannah	Oldaker, Tyler	Rowe, Charlie
Greeson, Barbara	Norman, Amanda	Russell, Blaine	Whitten, Steve
Jones, Meredith	Shartiger, Beth	Smith, Tom	Williams, Blake
Hepler, Lynda	Styers, Peggy		
Holladay, Ferol	Usher, Loretta		
Kennedy, Susan	Vannoy, Carol		
Link, Doris	Whitten, Ann		
Marion, Tracy			
Murdock, Gayle			
Oldaker, Priscilla			
Sink, Teresa			
Styers, Shelton			
Williams, Jane			

Woodwinds	Strings
Flute – Laura Kaufman	Violins – Corine Brouwer
Oboe – Thomas Pappas	Andrew Emmett
	Nonoko Okada
	Gregorio Midero
Harp	Violas - Simon Ertz
Clarke Carriker	Christen Blanton
	Cello - Gina Pezzoli
	Bass - Keith Miller

Anthem Angels

Tonight's musical selections are made possible by financial gifts from Anthem Angels from
within and outside Memorial United Methodist Church. The Chancel Choir would like to
thank each and every Anthem Angel for their generous donations which made possible this
service in the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ!

Musical Selection	Anthem Angel	In Honor/Memory Of
Star of Bethlehem (SATB)	James and Marie Carmichael	Melissa, Greg, Walter, Laura and their children
Star of Bethlehem (Orchestration)	Margaret Faircloth	James S. Faircloth
Once In Royal David's City (SATB)	Charles and Bettie Rowe	Charlotte and Anna Honeycutt
Suo Gan (SATB and Orchestration)	David and Jane Williams	Bill Cates
Sussex Carol (Orchestration)	Bill and Kathy Cates	Brian Vannoy