

Accotink

Unitarian Universalist Church

A Welcoming & Inclusive Spiritual Home

where we inspire each other to live our values.

Together we Care in Community, Grow in Spirit, & Act for Justice.



December 24, 2024

A traditional and reflective service aimed to
light our hearts with the joys of Christmas.

Love Is Christmas

A Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2024 4:00pm

*Questions to Ponder: "What does Christmas mean to you?
What does Christmas call you to?"*

RINGING BOWL & SPECIAL WELCOMING WORDS

GATHERING SONGS

Jingle Bells

by J. Pierpont

*Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on bobtails ring
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight, oh!*

*Now the ground is white
Go it while you're young
Take the girls tonight
Sing this sleighing song
Get a bobtailed bay
Two forty for his speed
And hitch him to an open sleigh
And you will take the lead*

*Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh, hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh*

*Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh, hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh*

Silver Bells

by Jay Livingston & Ray Evans

*City sidewalks, busy sidewalks dressed in holiday style
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas
Children laughing, people passing, meeting smile after smile
And on every street corner you'll hear*

*Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the city
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas day.*

Silver Bells *(continued)*

by Jay Livingston & Ray Evans

Strings of streetlights, even stoplights blink of bright red and green

As the shoppers rush home with their treasures

Children laughing, people passing

Meeting smile after smile

And above all this bustle you'll hear

Silver bells, silver bells

It's Christmas time in the city

Ring-a-ling, hear them ring

Soon it will be Christmas day.

CHALICE LIGHTING

OPENING WORDS

MUSICAL MEDITATION

*Love Is Christmas by Sara Bareilles
performed by AUUC Choir*

CRAFT

REFLECTION

Learning to Be Generous

MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION

XMAS MEDLEY

The First Noel (Traditional English Carol)

The First Noel the Angels did say

Was to certain poor shepherds

in fields as they lay

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep

On a cold winter's night that was so deep

Noel Noel Noel Noel

Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star

Shining in the East beyond them far

And to the earth it gave great light

And so it continued both day and night

Noel Noel Noel Noel

Born is the king of Israel!.

And by the light of that same star

Three magi came from country far

To seek a king was their intent

And to follow the star wherever it went

Noel Noel Noel Noel

Born is the king of Israel!.

his star drew nigh to the northwest

O'er Bethlehem it took it's rest

And there it did both Pause and stay

Right o'er the place where Jesus lay

Noel Noel Noel Noel

Born is the king of Israel!

O Little Town of Bethlehem #246

*Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love
Oh morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth.
Let praises ring: from God they bring goodwill to all on earth*

*How silently, how silently the wonder is made known,
When God imparts to human hearts the gift that is our own.
No ear may hear that coming, but in this worldly din,
When souls are truly humble, then the dear babe rests within.*

O Come, All Ye Faithful Latin & English #253

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
Venite adoremus (3x)
Dominum.*

*Lo, humble shepherds, hasting to his cradle,
leaving their flocks in the fields, draw near.
We, too, with gladness, thither bend our footsteps;
Venite adoremus (3x)
Dominum*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
Venite adoremus (3x)
Dominum*

STORY

*Refuge
by Anne Booth & Sam Usher*

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Julie Schuck

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*When Jesus Was a Refugee
by Daniel Charles Damon*

REFLECTION

ANTHEM

SHARING THE LIGHT

CLOSING CAROL

Refuge for Refugees

Love Is Little
(arr. Kevin Siegfried)
performed by AUUC Choir

Silent Night #251

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,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!
Child of God love's pure light.
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace

CLOSING WORDS

*The Work of Christmas
by Howard Thurman*

RECESSIONAL

#245, Joy to the World

SOCIAL HOUR

DONATE

* Latecomers are still welcome.

~ We welcome people of all ages into our worship service.

Outreach Collection Sponsor: Judy Usherson

Special thanks to:

Board Host: Julie Schuck

Welcome to our Newcomers

If this is your first Sunday with us, please be sure to sign up for our future broadcast services and various newsletters via our in service chat options or by emailing, info@accotinkuu.org.

A variety of information about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation is available via our website and contact forms. A friendly AUUC Staff Member and/or Volunteer will be happy to answer your questions. In addition, we also publish a weekly newsletter, filled with information and opportunities to make a difference locally and nationally. If you would like to receive our newsletter, please speak to the Church Administrator at administrator@accotinkuu.org, and we will see to it that your name is added to our mailing list. We invite you to either download and/or print out this Order of Service. Please join us for coffee and conversation following the service today.

Our Shared Unitarian Universalist Values

Love is at the center of Unitarian Universalism. Love is the practice of our living tradition.
As Unitarian Universalists we covenant to:



- **Equity:** *We help everyone flourish with Dignity by building accessible and inclusive communities.*
- **Interdependence:** *We honor the web of life by protecting Earth & all beings from exploitation.*
- **Justice:** *We work to be Beloved Community by dismantling racism and all forms of systemic oppression.*
- **Generosity:** *We cultivate generosity by freely sharing our Faith, presence, and resources.*
- **Pluralism:** *We celebrate diversity by embracing our differences with love and respect.*
- **Transformation:** *We adapt to change, transforming the world with love by growing together, spiritually and ethically.*

Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church

10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke, VA 22015

Telephone: (703) 503-4579

Fax: (703) 503-8943

email: administrator@accotinkuu.org

Website: www.accotinkuu.org

Twitter: twitter.com/ACCOTINKUU

Facebook: www.facebook.com/accotink/

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