

**\*LIGHTING OUR CANDLES**

One: The people who once lived in darkness  
have been given a great light!

**All: Praise be to God who has heard our cries.**

One: Our souls sing out God's praise!

**All: God has brought us a light of Hope and Peace.**

One: Tonight, in this place, the Light of God's Love is given to us.

**All: And we shall see that light and let it shine through our lives.**

**Amen.**

*(Please tip the unlit candle toward the lit one as you pass the light to your neighbor. Following the benediction, please leave the sanctuary in silence and return your candle to the basket in the Narthex.)*

**\*HYMN**

**"Silent Night"** UMH #239

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Blair Penney and George Boje

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**9:00 a.m.** | Blended Worship  
Sunday School for Children and Adults

**10:30 a.m.** | Traditional Worship  
Sunday School for Children, Youth, and Adults

Worship with us in-person or online at [Facebook.com/Lenexaumc/Live](https://www.facebook.com/Lenexaumc/Live)



**Lenexa United  
Methodist Church**

*Journeying Together Toward Spiritual Growth*

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# Christmas Eve

**December 24, 2021 5:00 p.m.**



**Lenexa United Methodist Church**

# Christmas Eve

## December 24, 2021 5:00 p.m.

PRELUDE Blair Penney and George Boje

WELCOME

INTROIT *"Angels from the Realms of Glory" & "Carol of the Bells"*  
Joy Bells Ensemble

\*CALL TO WORSHIP/LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE The Koech Family

One: We have lit a candle each Sunday of Advent.

Each candle has a meaning.

The first candle was HOPE,  
the second candle was PEACE,

the third candle was JOY,  
and the fourth candle was LOVE.

Tonight we light the Christ candle.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

**All: May Christ light the way.**

\*HYMN *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* UMH #234 v. 1-4

COMMUNITY PRAYER

*O God of hope, peace, joy, and love.*

*As Mary and Joseph welcomed you into the world,  
now help us welcome you into our lives.*

*Give us courage to hope; strength to seek peace.*

*Fill our spirits with joy; and our hearts with love.*

*Through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all. Amen.*

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Here We Come A-Caroling"*  
*"The Friendly Beasts"*  
Growing in Grace Children's Choir

LESSON John 1:1-12  
Teila Creekmore

HYMN *"Away in a Manger"* UMH #217

LESSON Luke 2:1-7  
Alex Cooper

HYMN *"The First Noel"* UMH #245 v. 1-3

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Sing We Now of Christmas"*  
Joy Bells Ensemble

\*HYMN *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* UMH #238 v. 1-3

LESSON Luke 2:8-20  
Erik Troy

HYMN *"Joy to the World"* UMH #246

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Love Came Down at Christmas"*  
Joy Bells Ensemble

LESSON Luke 1:26-31  
Blair Penney

SPECIAL MUSIC *"O Holy Night"*  
Tim Hunt

\*LESSON John 3:16-19  
Mark DeCoursey

MEDITATION *"Silent Night"*  
Rev. Ezekiel Koech

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION/OFFERING

*In the United Methodist Church, all are welcome to share the bread and cup.*

*Please come by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup of juice.*

*There is a gluten-free station available in the center. You are welcome to kneel  
at the altar rail or return to your seat to consume the elements.*

*If you wish to be served in the pew, please inform an usher.*

*Please place your gifts and attendance card  
in the offering plates while entering or exiting the Sanctuary.*

*You may also give online at [lenexaumc.org](http://lenexaumc.org),  
download the mobile app ShelbyNext Giving,  
or text the amount you would like to give to (913) 444-5960.*

*Tonight's offering will support the Banana Africa Gospel Church in Kenya led  
by Pastor Edward Koech, the brother of Rev. Ezekiel Koech. Our goal is to raise  
\$4,500 for equipment and repairs to the Junior Church building.*

OFFERING PRAYER

\*HYMN *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* UMH #240

\* Please stand as you are able.