



**Mission Statement:**

**Tipton First United Methodist Church**

*“To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”*

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**10:00 pm Christmas Eve Service**

607 Lynn St. - Tipton, IA 52772; 563-886-2331

office@tiptonumc.org or pastor@tiptonumc.org Website: www.tiptonumc.org

Paul E. Frederiksen - Pastor  
Jenn Comstock - Admin. Ministries Coordinator  
Sylvia Gould - Accompanist  
Alice Ann Gallagher - Chancel Choir Director

Greg Brown - Director of Xn Chaos  
Don Griffith - Custodian  
Denise Cartwright - Choir Kids Director  
Dee Wallace - Accompanist

# CHRISTMAS EVE 2014

10:00 p.m.

*Carols, Communion and Candlelight*

*December 24*

*(The (\*) invites persons to rise as able for this act of worship.)*

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

various passages

\* SONG

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

No. 220

\* PRAYER OF WORSHIP (unison)

**Gracious God, with joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people.**

**We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth.**

**In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts**

**that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time.**

**Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world.**

**Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts,**

**"Glory to God in the highest,**

**and on earth peace among those God favors."**

**This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.**

SINGING

“He Is Born”

No. 228

LIGHTING of the ADVENT and CHRIST CANDLES

THE Story

Luke 2:1-7

Reader : Come, Lord Jesus.

**ALL: Come, Lord Jesus, come into our world;**

**come into MY life!**

SONG

“What Child Is This”

No. 219

THE NEWS SPREADS

Luke 2:8 – 14

& Luke 2:15 – 20

SONG

“Joy to the World”

(vss. 1 & 2) No. 246

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39 & 40

*In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.*

PONDERING THE EVENT

“Pulling for Home”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and PARDON

**Merciful God,**

**we confess that often we find darkness more comfortable than light.**

**We confess that we find your good news frightening and unsettling,  
especially when we consider its demands as well as its promises.**

**We confess that Christmas has become more to us than the birthday of  
the Christ, partly because we do not want a Christ-Child in our lives  
or in our world.**

**Forgive us, break us, bend us, remake us.**

**Give us the courage to lay ourselves open to the wonder and healing  
of your coming.**

**Be born again into our world; be born again into our hearts and lives.**

*(silent confessions)*

Leader: The true light that enlightens all has come into the world.

That light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness has never been  
able to put it out. This is the good news: God has heard our confession.  
God has forgiven our sin.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GIVING – Our Offerings of Love

SING (as offering is received)      "There's A Song..."      (vss. 1,2,4) No. 249

HOLY COMMUNION – The Christ Still Among Us!

Take the Bread and Cup

Give Thanks

The Lord's Prayer

Break the Bread, Prepare the Cup

Receive, Grace Upon Grace

*(Bring your candle and program with you when you come for communion.)*

\* CANDLELIGHTING

(Keep the lit candle upright; dip the unlit!)

*The ushers will take the flame to the persons sitting along the center aisle. Another usher will take the flame to the balcony center aisle. Pass the flame one to another to the ends of the row. Persons in the balcony are invited to move toward the front edge after your candle is lit... if you're ok with that.*

