

# Announcements for December 24, 2017

For: Rev. Escandell

Our **CHRISTMAS EVE “CANDLELIGHT SERVICE”** will be celebrated this evening in the Sanctuary at 6 p.m.

Please note: the **CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** December 25-26 and January 1-2, 2018.

# Additional Liturgy for December 24, 2017

For: Sher Wilkes

## **Call to Confession**

Let us confess our sins to the One whose mercy endures from generation to generation.

## **Prayer for Illumination**

It's time to hear God's Word read and proclaimed. Let us pray:

Astonishing God, send your Holy Spirit upon us as we await the coming of your Son. Fill us with good things that we may conceive your reign on earth and glorify you according to your Word; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## **Old Testament**

## ***Isaiah 9:2-7 (NRSV)***

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onwards and for evermore.  
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

## **Invitation to the Offering**

God, the source of all good things, has given us what we need. In joyful response, let us offer our gifts, the fruit of our labors, and the dedication of our hearts for loving service in the name of Christ.

## **Offertory Prayer**

Holy God, your love is magnified in the gift of your Son, whom you so freely share with us. Bless these gifts that we offer to lift up the lowly and fill the hungry in your coming reign of justice and peace; in Christ's name. Amen.