2015 Children’s Christmas Eve Service

**Prelude – Sara Hazen (Acolytes – Emily & Brayden will light the 2 candles on the altar)**

**Welcome – Rev. Kathy**

**Call to Worship – Becklyn Shanahan**

Leader: Animals came to prepare your bed.

**ALL: COME, LORD JESUS, COME!**

Leader: Shepherds stood guard, marveled and said:

**ALL: COME, LORD JESUS, COME!**

Leader: Angels sang to calm your cries.

**ALL: COME, LORD JESUS, COME!**

Leader: And all the world gave one great sigh.

**ALL: AH, LORD JESUS, YOU HAVE COME!**

**Carol & New Joy Choirs - *“The Friendly Beasts”***

**Lighting of the Christ Candle – Tween Group**

Becklyn – The time has come. Advent is over. God has come among us. Today we light these four candles of Advent. The first candle is for Hope.

*(Amelia - light a purple candle)*

Megan - This story is not just from long ago, it is a story of today. The second candle is for Love.

*(Becklyn - light a purple candle)*

Amelia – God is with us now, born into our world right now. The third candle is for Joy.

*(Megan - light a pink candle)*

Hannah – We are called not just to believe, but to invite Jesus to live with us every day. The fourth candle is for Peace.

*(Danny - light a purple candle)*

Megan – Today we light the Christ Candle as a sign that through God, hope, love, joy and peace are being born into our lives and our world this Christmas.

(*Hannah -* *light the white Christ candle)*

Becklyn - Let us pray. God, our hearts sing with joy because of Jesus. Help us to remember this Christmas and all year long by giving the presents of life: hope, love peace, joy, kindness and understanding to others. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

**Christ Candle Hymn**

**Offertory – *A Charlie Brown Christmas***

**Carol – O Come All Ye Faithful (verse 1)**

**Christmas Prayer – Rev. Kathy**

**The Christmas Story (Read by Rev. Kathy. Children helping. See story script.)**

**Carol – Silent Night (and directions for glow sticks)**

**Closing Blessing – Rev. Kathy**

**Carol – Joy to the World** \*\* Join us in Fellowship Hall for cake and crafts for Jesus’ birthday!