



WILLIAMSBURG UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

*The Gifts  
of Christmas*

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Rev. Michelle Collins,  
Interim Minister

Sunday, December 24, 2023  
10:00 am

# Order of Service

## OPENING WORDS

Rev. Michelle Collins, Interim Minister

“Come Christmas!” by Maureen Killoran

## CAROLS

“The First Noel”

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

“Ding Dong Merrily on High!”

## OPENING WELCOME

Susan Marcinkus, Worship Associate

*Come, come, whoever you are,  
Whomever you love,  
Whatever your image of the Holy,  
Your presence here is a gift.  
All are worthy, all are welcome.*

## LIGHTING THE CHALICE

Susan Marcinkus

“Fellow Sojourners,” by Dan Lambert

*We gather together on this Christmas day as fellow  
sojourners looking for light, for hope, for peace, and for  
love.*

*We gather as people from many backgrounds, many faiths,  
many cultures, and many spiritual paths.*

*But as we light this chalice, we gather as one body looking  
to the Nativity for its message to all of humanity.*

*Its message is that there is light, there is hope, there is  
peace, there is love.*

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Rev. Michelle Collins

## ABOUT CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Austen Petersen,  
Director of Religious Education

## CAROL

“Jingle Bells”

## INTRODUCTION TO THEME FOR THE DAY

Rev. Michelle Collins

## GIFT #1

Rev. Michelle Collins

Waiting & Anticipation of Advent & Reality!

## STORY

Susan Marcinkus

“Waiting,” by Burton Carley

## CAROL

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

## GIFT #2

Rev. Michelle Collins

Rituals & Traditions

## SOME THOUGHTS

Austen Petersen

## CAROLS

“Deck the Hall”

“O Christmas Tree”

## GIFT #3

Rev. Michelle Collins

Memories & Spans of Emotions

## READING

Susan Marcinkus

“Blessing for the Longest Night,” by Jan Richardson

## LIGHTING CANDLES OF MEMORY

Rev. Michelle Collins

“Mary’s Cradle Song,” traditional

Heidi Souza, piano

## ANTHEM

WUU Choir, directed by Kim Ness, Music Director

“Joy on Christmas Morning,” by Audrey Snyder

## SHARING OUR GIFTS

Text-to-Give: 757-500-0688

Today’s offering will go to our Journey to Asylum program, in support of families seeking safety, just as Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus were in the Christian story from long ago. It wouldn’t be possible without your financial support. Thank you for your generosity.

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

Heidi Souza, piano

"Ukranian Bell Carol," by M. Leontovich

**GIFT #4**

Rev. Michelle Collins

After & Cleaning Up Holiday Messes

**READING**

Susan Marcinkus

"Christmas Is Subversive," by Kendyl L. R. Gibbons

**CAROL**

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

**CLOSING WORDS**

Rev. Michelle Collins

"For So the Children Come," by Sophia Lyon Fahs

