

GATHERING & WELCOME

Pastor Brendan Fox

**and lead us to the shining truth, of God with us, God for us,
God in us. Amen**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Animals came to prepare your bed.

Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

Shepherds stood guard, marveled and said:

Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

Angels sang to calm your cries.

Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

And all the world gave one great sigh:

Ah, Lord Jesus, you have come!

*CAROL *O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs. 1 & 6)*

UMH #234

PRAYER

God of grace and wonder, on this night, we like shepherds are amazed. We hear again the message of angels proclaiming peace on earth, and we recall the ageless story of a baby born in a manger, and we know beyond any doubt that you love us more than we can ever know. Thank you. Amen.

CAROL *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs. 1-3)*

UMH #240

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

with Advent Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy & Love

**Come to us, Lord Jesus. Be born in us this night, in our hearts,
our minds, our lives. May the light of your life be kindled in us,**

A VISIT FROM A FRIEND

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

CAROL *Away in a Manger (vs. 1 & 2)*

UMH #217

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CAROL *Silent Night (vs. 1 & 2)*

UMH #239

*BLESSING

Rev. Amy Gregory

Light has been born. Truth has a face. The angels are singing.
Heaven is celebrating. Tell out the good news. **Christ is born!**

*CAROL *Go Tell It on the Mountain (vs. 1 & 3)*

UMH #251

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

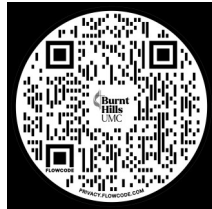
* Please stand as you are able.

Christmas Offering

Our Christmas offering helps neighbors near and far. Our church keeps none of your gifts received from this offering. This year we will again support:

Schenectady Community Ministries
RISSE (Support for Refugees and Immigrants)
Captain, CHS (Community Human Services) and food pantries of SICM/Schenectady Inner City Ministry
Chocacente Scholars (Managua, Nicaragua)
Lifeworks in Ballston Spa and Rensselaer UMC
The Guardian House Future Playground Fund

You may present your donation by visiting our church website at: nybhumc.com/online-giving.html. There is a dropdown box for the Christmas Offering. **Thank you for your generous offering for people in need. Merry Christmas!**



BHUMC Welcome Statement

At Burnt Hills UMC, we aspire to be a community of grace and unconditional love, where all people will find hospitality, compassion and mercy. We seek to welcome all on the journey, to grow together in faith and to go out to serve the world. We welcome people of any age, culture, race, nationality, ability, marital status, economic status, sexual orientation and gender identity, as full participants in the life of our congregation. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be part of Jesus' movement of love and justice for all of God's children. All are welcome to worship, grow and serve with us.



Short & Sweet Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023

3:30pm



Burnt Hills United
Methodist Church

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