



# FRANCONIA

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310  
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[www.franconiaUMC.org](http://www.franconiaUMC.org)



**December 24, 2024 at 4:00 PM**  
**Children's Christmas Eve Service**

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UMH – United Methodist Hymnal

*\*Stand in body or in spirit.*

Gathering Music

June Shuffett

Welcome

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

\*Call to Worship

Leader: God of children, babies, families, and all people;  
Fill the skies with light and song!

**People: Come, fill our hearts with wonder and peace.**

Leader: On this day, a window to heaven opens  
and we catch a glimpse of God's amazing love.

**People: A love that comes as a child.**

Leader: Oh, let the angels sing and let our hearts rejoice.

**People: Let our lives be filled anew with hope.**

**We praise our newborn King!**

\*Hymn

*O Come All Ye Faithful, v. 1 & 3*

UMH 234

\*The Advent Wreath and Christ Candle

The Coltrin Family

Leader: God's love is coming into the world.

**People: The birthday boy is coming!**

Leader: A mother and a father finally find rest in a barn . . .

**People: The birthday boy is coming!**

Leader: Angels sing and shepherds run . . .

**People: The birthday boy is coming!**

Leader: The stars shone bright and the Wise Men began their journey . . .

**People: The birthday boy is coming!**

Leader: This day, we joyfully light the Christ Candle,  
remembering when God's love came down at the birth of Jesus. God loves us!

**People: The birthday boy is here! Joy to the World!**

\*Hymn

*Joy to the World*

UMH 246

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 1-7

Grace Stahl

Christmas Prayer

**God of Surprising Love and Hope,  
we come this day to the manger,  
gazing lovingly on the Child born  
to bring hope to the world.**

**Open our hearts as we hear the story anew.**

**Help us to be guided by the Light of Jesus Christ,  
that we may truly feel the power of Your love  
and bring that love, with joy, to all we meet.**

**In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.**

Offertory

*The Best Gift Ever*

Franconia Players' Puppet Ministry

## Sharing the Christmas Story

Hymn	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	<u>UMH 230</u>
The <u>Stable</u> Hymn	<i>Friendly Beast</i>	The Donkey, Cow and Sheep <u>UMH 227</u>
God gives Good News Hymn	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i>	Angel Gabriel <u>UMH 218</u>
The Angel Shares the Good News Hymn	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	Mary, Joseph and Donkey <u>UMH 238</u>
The Child is Born Hymn	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	<u>UMH 217</u>
The Sky Rejoices! Hymn	<i>Hark the Herald Angels Sing</i>	Angels <u>UMH 240</u>
Sharing the Good <u>News</u> Hymn	<i>The First Noel</i>	The Shepherds and sheep <u>UMH 245</u>
From Far Away <u>The</u> Wise People Come! Hymn	<i>We Three Kings</i>	Wisemen and the Camel <u>UMH 254</u>
Good News for ALL the world! Hymn	<i>Good Christian Friends Rejoice</i>	<u>UMH 224</u>
Our Lord is born! We share the light! *Hymn	<i>Silent Night</i>	<u>UMH 239</u>
Celebrate! Our Lord Has Come! *Song	<i>How Could It be a Silent Night</i>	See Screen
*Blessing		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
* <u>Postlude</u>		June Shuffett

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*Franconia United Methodist Church believes that everyone is a child of God.  
We welcome all people to worship, join in membership, serve in lay leadership,  
and actively participate in the life of the church.  
We welcome and affirm all persons without regard to gender, gender identity, race,  
sexual orientation, faith tradition, age, marital status, family structure,  
economic background, political affiliation, physical or mental ability or life experience.  
We commit to extend Christ's hospitality, creating a place of safety and sanctuary for all people.  
We recognize there are differences among us and although we may not think or look alike,  
we commit to respect and love one another as we are all the family of God.  
We further commit ourselves to loving acts of invitation, hospitality, and community,  
providing ministry to, for, and with all persons without exception,  
fostering a sense of belonging where people are respected and valued as beloved children of God.*

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Liam Upp

Franconia Players' Puppet Ministry:

Rylee ~~Frittman~~  
Charlotte Glaser  
Katherine Glaser  
Siobhan Porter-Miller

Staff:

Reverend: Melissa Porter-Miller  
Church Office: Jade Miller  
Children's Ministry: Linda Biscardo  
Music Ministry: Amy McCarthy  
Praise & Worship Leader: Sarah Chambers  
Youth & Young Adult Ministries: Sarah Chambers  
Organist: June Shuffett  
Handbells: Linda Biscardo  
All God's Children Preschool: Jessica Copes  
Nursery: Marie Bonhomme and Susann Ferrell

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