

A Christmas Service of Healing and Hope

DATE

TIME

LOCATION

_____ United Methodist Church
Childcare will be provided

It's almost Christmas. Carols are in the air all around you. The shopping list and presents are piling up. You might be all alone this Christmas. And you are a very rare person if you haven't felt overwhelmed, stressed, tired, or lonely. You are not required to feel a certain way just because twinkle lights are everywhere. Whatever is missing from your Christmas spirit this year, it is worth taking a little time to refill your soul with peace, quiet, and hope.

For most folks the Christmas season is an exciting and much anticipated time of the year. But for some of us it can bring feelings of sadness, loneliness, or emptiness. The Christmas Service of Healing and Hope is designed to offer a peaceful time of quiet meditation with beautiful music, lighting of candles, a time for prayer, and words of understanding and hope. Perhaps in the middle of the Christmas parties, the hymn-sings, the Christmas pageants, and the family dinners, this service might provide a meaningful space and time that would be otherwise difficult to find.

God isn't in the business of coming to us when everything is all nice and cleaned up and in order. God comes to the table where the smells of our messy lives are exactly what you would expect. The essence of the Christmas story that we celebrate is that God's light entered into the darkness in order to bring peace to our everyday struggles.

Christmas comes for everyone. Everyone is welcome whether you have a need for healing, or simply need a time of silence, reflection, and peace and beautiful instrumental Christmas music

Each of us carries our own hurts, sorrows, disappointments, and broken places.

You are invited to come to a beautiful safe place, to bring your broken places and offer them to our God who loves each of us deeply. God is the light in our darkness and God holds us close until we are able to shine again.

May the little Lord Jesus, born in a lowly stable—himself an outcast—bring light, comfort, peace, and joy to your heart this Christmas season.

Please join us on (*day of the week*), December (*date*) at (*time*) in (location) for our Christmas Service of Healing and Hope.

“What can I give him, poor as I am. If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part, but what I can I give him, give my heart.”