

Trinity UMC
December 17th

Prelude **Noel Christmas** Louis Daquiin 1694-1772

Lighting the Candles

Special Music **The Seven Joys of Mary**

Words from Jesus' Mouth: Matthew 4:4

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Prayer:

"Prayer doesn't change things. Prayer change people. People change things." John Ed Mathison, Treasures of the Transformed Life.

Prayer of Petition: Name one things you desire to see change!

Prayer of Confession: Does God tell us to change our neighbor or to love our neighbor as self? Describe how the thing you want to change makes you feel and think about your neighbor, and self. Notice that what you want to change is in your heart and mind. Learning to Love God with all our heart and mind means we give God our desire to change others. Describe how this prayer shifts away from selfish desires to be personally present in God's Grace.

Prayer of Thanksgiving: Thank God for what you see and hear in your heart and mind. Ask God to show you Jesus' way. Look at the suffering surrounding this desire for change. Give thanks that Jesus Suffered all sin, especially this one. Give thanks that Jesus suffered all sin to offer us mercy. How would receiving God's mercy change your heart and mind. How does receiving mercy give you eyes to see your neighbor through Jesus' eyes? How does it change the way you see your self?

Prayer of Faith: Ask the Father to show you how to be the change you desire.

Come , Divine Interpreter

Come, divine Interpreter, bring me eyes thy book to read, ears the mystic words to hear, words which did from thee proceed, words that endless bliss impart, kept in an obedient heart.

All who read, or hear, are blessed, if thy plain commands we do; of thy kingdom here possessed, thee we shall in glory view when thou comets on earth to abide, reign triumphant at thy side. Charles Wesley, 1762

Scripture Lessons

Do we believe: Jesus is "the mouth of God"?

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted[] by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from **the mouth of God.**' []"

Belief comes from Hearing Jesus' Word

17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come **near.**" (Or at hand)

Faith comes from Trusting Jesus' Word above all others.

Matthew 5:21-24 21 "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder,[] and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' 22 **But I tell you** that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister[][] will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,'[] is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and **be reconciled to them;** then come and offer your gift.

Message

Tithes and Offerings

Benediction Silent Night