



December 24, 2022
Christ the Savior is Born!
8:00 pm

PRELUDE MANGER MEDLEY - ARR HAYES (JUDI)

WELCOME

HYMN *O Come All Ye Faithful 1-4, 6*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

**Thank you God, for the gifts of hope, peace, joy, love, and YOU!
You came to be our savior and through faith in your name we have been adopted as children of God. On this holy night, receive our thanks and praise. Continue to teach us through the gift of your Holy Spirit how to follow in Jesus' footsteps to live with humility and show others the love that you have shown to us. Amen.**

HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

SCRIPTURE *Luke 2: 14 NRSV*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

HYMN Hark the Herald Angels Sing v. 1,2

SCRIPTURE Luke 2: 15-20 NRSV

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

HYMN Away in a Manger

F | f~is f'r fsljwst hwgkt wf gji%
Ymj gwyj Qtwi Qjxxxf~ait | sMdx | jyjnjfi%
Ymj xyfw is ymj xp~qt tpait | s| mjwj Mj f~%
Ymj gwyj Qtwi Qjxxxfxqju s ymj mf~%
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Ymj hfyj f'wj | nsl h ymj gfg~f | fpjx%
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N | t w m n u % t z Q j x x x k t w f q k a ~ a i f ~ x %
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SCRIPTURE Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his

mercy, through the water^a of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶ This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

SERMON

GIVING TALK AND OFFERING

The followers of John the Baptist listened as their leader identified Jesus as “the Lamb of God”. When Andrew and his colleague checked in with Jesus, they found One who appeared to be the Messiah (the Christ). In that moment, their lives were forever changed.

Andrew went to tell his brother, Simon, about Jesus. Simon followed Andrew back to this Messiah, and then received Jesus’ words, “you are to be called ‘Peter’”. That is written as THE moment when Peter became a follower, who gave the rest of his life to follow this Messiah.

Take a minute now to think of your own time of claiming Jesus as the Christ. Were you born into the faith? Carried to church as an infant? Baptized as a young person? How has your faith impacted your life?

As you think back, call to mind your own sense of energy, excitement, expectation. Did you declare, “I believe Jesus is the Christ, and accept him as Lord of my life!”

As we remember, let’s re-claim that confident faith. Join me in responding with gratitude, sharing our gifts, our tithes and our offerings. Let these symbols renew in you, and in me, our desire to be disciples of Jesus, the Christ.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Ever-giving God, thank you for the amazing gift of Jesus, who is the Light of Life. As we remember his baptism, and our own, accept our thanks for the way we are built up together into Christ. We pray for you to receive our gratitude, our gifts, and our intention to continue as followers of Jesus. Help us use what is provided, to share the Good News of your love with those close by and others, to the ends of the earth. AMEN

ANTHEM "Oh, Holy Night" Arr. by Jay Rouse- Chancel Choir

DOXOLOGY Angels we have Heard on High (Chorus) No. 238

Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria,
in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria
in excelsis Deo!

INVITATION AND CONFESSION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

CANDLE LIGHTING MUSIC "Silent Night"
Please tilt the unlight candle toward the lighted one.

HYMN Silent Night 1, 3,4

BENEDICTION

HYMN Joy to the World v. 1,2

POSTLUDE