



CIRCLE OF LIGHT: REVELATION

4th Sunday of Advent

Contemporary Worship
9:00 am
December 24, 2017



trinity | camp hill
LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! Please sign the red Worship Witness booklet to record your attendance with us this day, and indicate how many are communing. Then pass the booklet to the worshipers beside you in your row. If you are a guest, name tags are available for you to wear--we would be delighted to greet you by name. Hearing assistance devices are available at the Gathering Space desk.

about today's service

God keeps the promise made to David, to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

P: Pastor

L: Lector

C: Congregation

✚ Gathering ✚

We gather together to praise God and receive His love.

Song: "Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven"

Verse 1

Jesus, joy of the highest Heaven,
Born as a little baby
Under a wondrous star.
Like us, crying, He takes His first breath,
Held by His mother, helpless,
Close to her beating heart.

Jesus, laid in a lowly manger,
Facing a world of danger;
Come to turn me, a stranger,
Into a child of God.

Verse 2

Jesus, joy of the highest Heaven,
Learning to take His first steps
That He might bring us life.
Like us, knowing our smiles and sorrows,
He showed the way to follow,
A way that is true and right.
Jesus, take away every darkness;
Steady my simple footsteps
That I might, in Your goodness,
Live as a child of God.

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Song: "Mary Did You Know"

Verse 1

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.

Verse 2

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to the blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with His hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
And when you kiss your little baby you've kissed the face of God?

Bridge

Mary, did you know? Oh, Mary, did you know?
The blind will see, the deaf will hear; the dead will live again!
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb!

Verse 3

Oh, Mary, did you know that your baby boy is the Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy was heaven's perfect Lamb?
And the sleeping Child you're holding is the Great I Am!

Lowry, Mark / Greene, Buddy© 1991, 1993 Word Music (ASCAP) / Rufus Music (ASCAP) (Admin. by Keeling And Company) CCLI License No. 1283514

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Song: "Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"

Oh come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by your Advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, Oh Israel.

Prayer

P: God our Savior, nothing is impossible for you. Prepare our hearts to rejoice in your glorious advent.

C: Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

(Stand)

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us prepare to receive Christ by turning from sin and seeking God's mercy.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: God of all time,

C: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven, and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Sit)

✝ Word ✝

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of His people.

First Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever!
Amen.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Story

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation: "Advent Acclamation"

A E F#m A E

Let us see, O Lord, Your mer - cy. Let us hear Your Word of tru -

F#m D E F#m D E

th. Em-man u el, God - with-u - s, A - men A -



Nancy Easton and Debra Wilson

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people (Mary) from little known places (Nazareth). This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in his gospel.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Sit)

Sermon: "Circle of Light: Revelation"

Pastor Jennifer A. Crist

(Stand)

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the + resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Following each petition are the words: "Lord, in your mercy,"

*Please respond with: "**hear our prayer.**"*

✠ Meal ✠

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience His love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

(Sit)

Offering:

Optional methods of giving: text an amount to 717-963-2281 (be sure to use a "\$"); use the Giving Station in the Gathering Space to donate by credit card.

Special Music: "My Soul Magnifies the Lord"

Verse 1

Good news of great joy for ev'ry woman, ev'ry man;
This will be a sign to you; a baby born in Bethlehem.
Come and worship, do not be afraid.

Verse 2

A company of angels, "Glory in the highest!"
And on the earth, a peace among those on whom His favor rests.
Come and worship, do not be afraid.

Chorus 1

My soul, my soul magnifies the Lord,
my soul magnifies the Lord.
He has done great things for me, great things for me!

Verse 3

Unto you a child is born, unto us, a Son is giv'n.
Let ev'ry heart prepare His throne, let ev'ry nation under Heav'n.
Come and worship, do not be afraid.

Chorus 1 (2X)

Bridge

Of His government there will be no end;
He'll establish it with His righteousness.
And He shall reign on David's throne,
and His name shall be from this day on:
Wonderful, Counselor,
Everlasting Father!

Chorus 2 (3X)

My soul, my soul magnifies the Lord.
My soul, my soul magnifies the Lord.

Chorus 1 (2X)

By Chris Tomlin and Daniel Carson © 2009 worshiptogether.com Songs/sixsteps Music/Vamos Publishing CCLI# 1282514.

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: Christ is here.

C: The Spirit is with us.

P: With joy, we lift up our hearts.

C: And give thanks to the Lord of Life.

P: Holy God, ever-faithful, we praise you for your awesome works in ages past; the deliverance of your people from slavery into freedom; the words of the prophets to stir our hearts; and most of all for Jesus Christ, who came to save us from our sin. Through Christ you have given us hope and salvation, love and joy. Now we come to your table to share in the supper of our Lord.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As your Spirit gathers us into one body in Christ through this meal, make us a living sacrifice of praise. All honor and glory belongs to you, Almighty God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion

P: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Sit)

Sharing our Lord's Supper

All baptized Christians are welcome to celebrate the real presence of Jesus Christ in our Lord's Supper. Please come forward by the middle aisle, receive the bread, dip it into the wine, and return by the side aisles. Communion may be received in bread only, if desired. Non-communing children and adults are invited to come forward for a blessing. As a gesture of hospitality we use dealcoholized wine (less than .5% alcohol). In addition, we offer gluten-free wafers available upon request-- please ask the pastor at the time of communion.

(Stand)

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray. God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ Sending ✠

*We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and been fed at the table.
Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.*

Blessing

P: May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Song: "Joy to the World"

Verse 1

Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Verse 2

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns! Let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Verse 3

No more let sin and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Tag: And wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, English melody, 18th cent.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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sunday-thursday, 6pm-9pm

worship notes

Attendance at our services last week was 802. Copies of last week's sermons are available on the tables in Fellowship Hall, in the narthex, the tract rack in the Gathering Space, and on our website. Our web address is: www.trinitycamphill.org.

The flowers in the Nave and Fellowship Hall, the communion elements for all services, and the sanctuary lamp candle, the symbol of God's abiding presence, are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Vincent Morgan by his family; loved ones by Betty Wade.

leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Preacher: The Rev. Jennifer A. Crist

Storyteller: Becky Enney

Lector: Margie Chester

Greeters: Rob Bertram (head greeter), Charlie Reddinger and Karen Lingle, Pat Eby

Communion Assistants: Martha Nagle, Jennifer Schwalm

Ushers: Dan Reed

Altar Care: Pat Eby

Sound Technician: Daryl Ackerman

Video Presentation: Barb Henderson

Slide Show Production: Barb Henderson

Visual Announcements: Jane Killian

FaithX: Kevin Appleby, Kevin Brady, Pam Hess, Shannon Jones, Devin Miller, Tom Reddinger, Mike Schwalm, Tom Stank, Paul Walker, Debbie Wilson, Rick Wilson

Cover art/design: Trinity Staff

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.