



# CIRCLE OF LIGHT: WITNESS

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Contemporary Worship  
9:00 and 10:45 am  
December 17, 2017**



**trinity | camp hill**

LUTHERAN CHURCH



# trinity | camp hill

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

**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

*"Rejoice always," begins the reading from First Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. "All God's children got a robe," go the words of the spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes that make us feel happy just to put on. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God's party.*

P: Pastor

L: Lector

C: Congregation

## ✚ Gathering ✚

*We gather together to praise God and receive His love.*

**Song: "We Praise You Jesus"**

### **Chorus (2X)**

We praise You, Jesus,

We praise, You Lord.

We sing songs of freedom.

We dance with joy.

**Verse**

You've taken our weeping  
And turned it into dancing;  
Taken our heaviness away.  
Far away.

**Chorus****Verse (2X)**

By Kenny West & Lindsey West; © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music/ASCAP CCLI #1283514.

**Song: "Glory to God"**

**Intro:** Glo - - ria in excelsis Deo, in excelsis Deo

**Verse**

Peace on Earth, there is hope for everyone  
Tell the world, that the saving King has come  
And His light is here for all who live in darkness  
And His love is here for all the broken-hearted

**Chorus**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest  
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest

**Verse****Chorus (2x)****Bridge (2x)**

Jesus, Messiah, the promise fulfilled, the hope of the world born for us  
And all who believe Him, and all who receive Him are children born of God

**Chorus (2x)**

**Tag:** Glo - - ria in excelsis Deo, Glo - - ria in excelsis De - o

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Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**Song: "Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"**

Oh come, strong Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

**Refrain**

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

## Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, you continue to do great things for us. Give us your gift of peace as we await your coming.

**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: Almighty God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you, and against our sisters and brothers. Our lives have not proclaimed your reign of justice and truth. We have failed to watch and pray for the signs of your advent among us. Forgive our sins, and come quickly to save us. Amen.**

P: In the advent of Christ, the dawn from on high breaks upon us with light and healing. Through Jesus Christ, God looks with favor upon you, and forgives you all your sins.

**C: Amen**

## Greeting

P: The steadfast love of God, the life of Jesus Christ, and the growth of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

*Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of the Lord, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn.*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; <sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. <sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. <sup>8</sup>For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. <sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

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 -

A A2

men.

Nancy Easton and Debra Wilson

Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

*John's gospel describes Jesus as the "light of the world." John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.*

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' " as the prophet Isaiah said. <sup>24</sup>Now they had been sent from the

Pharisees. <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup>the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." <sup>28</sup>This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Sit)

Sermon: "Circle of Light: Witness"

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: "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  
would 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?  
When you kiss your little baby  
you've kissed the face of God?

#### **Bridge**

Oh 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

Mary did you know that your baby boy  
is 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  
is heaven's perfect Lamb?

That sleeping Child you're holding  
is the Great I Am.

**Tag:** Mary did you know?

by Buddy Greene, Mark Lowry © 1991, 1993 Word Music, LLC CCLI #1283514

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

P: Gracious God:

**C: Accept the offerings we bring this day – the work of our hands, the gifts of our labor, the service of our lives. Gladden our hearts as we watch for your coming and help us to share that gladness with all. 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: The banquet is ready. Come to the feast!

**C: Glory 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. We give you thanks, O God, for the strength and hope you have poured out upon us through this meal. By your grace we are better prepared to meet darkness with light, anger with love, and strife with peace. Send us forth with a joyful purpose in our hearts that we may do your will in all things until the day our Savior comes again in power and might.

**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 you be filled with the peace of God, nourished by the life of ✝ Jesus Christ, and upheld by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**Song: "Light of the World"**

**Verse 1**

You are the Light of the world. You are the Light of the world.  
So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are the Light of the world.

**Verse 2**

You are a city on a hill. You are a city on a hill.  
So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are a city on a hill.

**Verse 3**

You are a candle in the dark. You are a candle in the dark.  
So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are a candle in the dark.

**Verse 4**

You are a star in the night. You are a star in the night.  
So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are a star in the night.

**Verse 1**

**Tag:** You are the Light of the world. You are the Light of the world.

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Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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## worship notes

**Attendance at our services** last week was 742. 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](http://www.trinitycamphill.org).

**The Sanctuary Lamp Candle in the Chapel**, the symbol of God's presence, is presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marjorie A. Clayton and Marjorie C. Katzman all year long by Mr. Ronald M. Katzman.



# trinity | camp hill

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

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gathering space receptionist hours:  
sunday-thursday, 6pm-9pm

## leaders

**Presiding Minister:** The Rev. John H. Brock

**Preacher:** The Rev. Jennifer A. Crist

**Storyteller:** Becky Enney

**Lector:** (9:00) Tom Hoffert; (10:45) Micki McCoy

**Greeters:** (9:00) Rob Bertram (head greeter); (10:45) Steve Kauffman (head greeter), Ron Rau, Bill and Karen Purnell

**Communion Assistants:** (9:00) Jane Killian, Garry Orner, Tom Hoffert; (10:45) Larry Reigle, Matt McGeorge

**Offering Assistants:** (10:45) Leah Balasundram, Charlie MacConnell

**Ushers:** (9:00) George and Karen Yeager; (10:45) Tim and Judy Trissler

**Altar Care:** (9:00) Becky Enney; (10:45) Suzanne Fickes

**Flower Delivery:** Dave and Michele Addams

**Sound Technician:** (9:00) Tom Reddinger; (10:45) Reed Bertram

**Video Presentation:** (9:00) Barb Henderson; (10:45) Chuck Roy

**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

**Garden of Eatin':** (GOE I) Bill and Peggy Miller, Gretchen Brodie; (GOE II) Carole Peiffer, Mary Ellen Harner

**Cover art/design:** Trinity Staff

**United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.**