

HOLY CHILD



1st Sunday of Christmas

**Contemporary Worship
9:00 am
December 31, 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

In the psalm all the natural world praises God, including all humanity, male and female, young and old. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we speak of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.

P: Pastor

L: Lector

C: Congregation

✝ Gathering ✝

We gather together to praise God and receive His love.

Song: "I Wonder as I Wander"

Verse 1

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus the savior did come for to die
For poor ordinary people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

Verse 2

When Mary birthed Jesus, t'was in a cow stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all,
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall;
The promise of ages, He then did recall.

Verse 3

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing
For all of God's angels in heaven to sing
He surely could have it, for He was the King.

Verse 1

John Jacob Niles. Public Domain

Song: "Joy Has Dawned"**Verse 1**

Joy has dawned upon the world,
Promised from creation:
God's salvation now unfurled,
Hope for every nation.
Not with fanfares from above,
Not with scenes of glory,
But a humble gift of love: Jesus, born of Mary.

Verse 2

Sounds of wonder fill the sky
With the songs of angels,
As the mighty Prince of Life
Shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place,
Shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast,
Vuln'erable and helpless.

Verse 3

Shepherds bow before the Lamb,
Gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands
Prophecy a story.
Gold, a King is born today;
Incense, God is with us;
Myrrh, His death will make a way
And by His blood He'll win us.

Verse 4

Son of Adam, Son of Heav'n,
Given as a ransom;
Reconciling God and man –
Christ our mighty Champion!
`What a Saviour, what a Friend,
what a glorious myst'ry;
Once a babe in Bethlehem,
Now the Lord of hist'ry.

By Keith Getty & Stuart Townend © 2004 Thankyou Music ccli#1283514.

Welcome and Announcements

(Stand)

Greeting

P: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

C: on those living in the shadows of death a light has dawned.

P: Jesus Christ is our Life and Light. In Christ's name, welcome!

C: In Christ's grace, let us worship God!

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In this Christmas season, let's take time for reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Holy God,

C: we come here to celebrate Love Incarnate in our midst.

P: Your glorious arrival is enough to cause the forests to sing for joy,

C: yet we still find reasons to complain and sigh.

P: Your light of salvation is bright enough to illuminate every corner of our lives,

C: yet we still find ourselves shrouded in worry and doubt.

P: Your gift of love is big enough for the whole world,

C: yet we still find ourselves resentful that your love extends to those we deem unworthy.

P: Forgive us, O God. Invite us into the light of the stable,

C: and give us the courage to join you at the manger. Amen.

P: Do not be afraid! Hear the good news of great joy for all people: a savior is born for you!

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our 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

Galatians 4:4-7

Paul seeks to show the Galatians that the purpose of Christ's birth was to liberate us from the law's condemnation so that we would be fully adopted into God's family as sons and daughters.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Story

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation: "Our Way, Our Truth, Our Life"



©Debbie Wilson & Nancy R. Easton

Luke's narrative continues with stories that emphasize Jesus' connection to Judaism. His family is devout in its observance of the law, and Jesus himself is recognized as one who will bring glory to Israel.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." ³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Sit)

Sermon: "Holy Child"

Pastor Jack M. Horner

(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: "Unto Us"

Chorus (2X)

Unto us a Son is given. Unto us a Savior born.
Unto us a King delivered. Unto us this Christmas morn.

Verse 1

Let the Earth lift high His praise.
The Holy One, Ancient of Days.
The Son of God in flesh is born.
The King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

Chorus (2X)

Verse 2

Worship now the newborn King.
Within His hand salvation brings.
Come exalt the sacrifice,
born of God to give us life!

Instrumental

Give us Your life!

Verse 1

Chorus

Tag: Unto us this Christmas morn. Unto us this Christmas morn.

Dave Chumchal © 2004 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, CCLI #1283514

(Stand)

Offering Prayer

P: Generous God,

C: You invite us to live lives of gratitude and generosity. Unite and empower us to give our time, talents, and treasures for your mission and ministry. Make your home in us so we may serve you and your people. 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: We give you thanks, Heavenly Father, for your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. His coming was foretold by the prophets, and his arrival was heralded by choirs of angels. Born of the Virgin Mary, he was your light come into the world. In him your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

By his life he proclaimed your mercy and love. By his death on the cross, he destroyed the power of sin and death. By his resurrection, he leads us into new life. Now, by the gift of this meal, fill us with the Holy Spirit, and strengthen us to live as children of the light.

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."

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: Joy to the world! The Lord is come.

C: Let every heart receive our Savior.

(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. O God, you gave us Christ the Son to bring us home and save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Song: "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Verse 1

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Chorus

Verse 2

The Shepherds feared and trembled when lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our savior's birth.

Chorus

Verse 3

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Chorus (2X)

Negro Spiritual

Dismissal

P: Glory to God in the highest!

C: Peace to God's people on earth!

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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monday-friday, 9am-4pm

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

worship notes

Attendance at our services last week was 2,903 (2,539 – Christmas Eve). 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.

If you are seeking a unique way of remembering a loved one, or of honoring someone special in your life, or of remembering a special date in your own life, please consider making a contribution to help defray the cost of our worship elements (flowers, communion elements, sanctuary lamp candles). Contact the church office if you are interested (737-8635).

leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. John H. Brock

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Storyteller: Becky Enney

Lector: Charlie Reddinger

Greeters: Rob Bertram (head greeter), Janet Kissinger, Kelli Gift

Communion Assistants: Larry Reigle, John West, Charlie Reddinger

Ushers: Dan Reed

Altar Care: Shirley Wilkie

Flower Delivery: Kanelos Family

Sound Technician: Gary Rini

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.