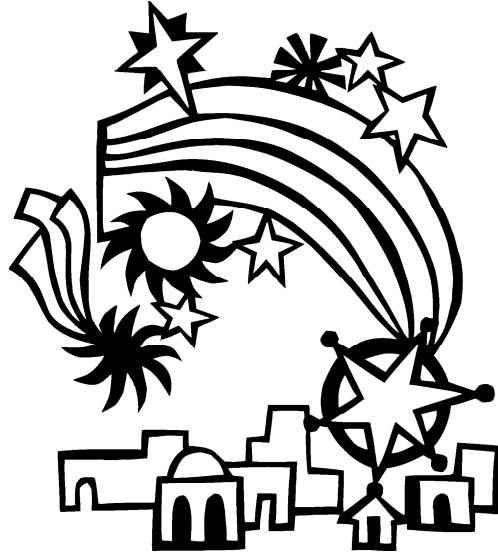


Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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Reverend James Heckman, Bridge Pastor
267-664-3160/ bridgepastor.ELD@gmail.com

December 25, 2022, 10:30 AM



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD / CHRISTMAS DAY **Lessons and Carols for Christmas**

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran
www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

Introduction to Worship

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

Prelude:

Welcome

Gathering Song: Once in Royal David's City -ELW #269

- 1 Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.
- 4 Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
There his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

Dialogue

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Opening Prayer

L: Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7 *God promises a king*

L: A reading from the 9th Chapter of Isaiah

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his
shoulders; and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming - ELW #272

- 1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright,
amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.
- 2 Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.
- 3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.
- 4 O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;

O Savior, king of glory, who dost our weakness know:

bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven and into endless day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845-1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4

Second Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a *The king will come from Bethlehem*

L: A reading from the 5th Chapter of Micah.

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

⁵and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: O Little Town of Bethlehem - ELW #279

1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

3 How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

Third Lesson: Luke 1:26-35, 38 *The annunciation to Mary*

L: A reading from the 1st Chapter of Gospel according to Luke.

²⁶In 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. 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came **ELW #265**

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!
- 2 "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honor thee;
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!
- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7 *The birth of Jesus*

L: A reading from the 2nd Chapter of Gospel according to Luke.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came

for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: Infant holy, infant lowly ELW #276

- 1 Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing,
tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
- 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-16 *The shepherds go to see the Savior*

L: The reading continues in the second chapter of Luke.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: Angels, from the Realms of Glory ELW #275

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 4 All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:21-35 *Jesus receives his name*

L: The continued reading from the 2nd Chapter of Gospel of Luke.

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him 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."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: That Boy-Child of Mary ELW #293

Refrain

That boy-child of Mary was born in a stable, a manger his cradle in Bethlehem.

1 What shall we call him, child of the manger?

What name is given in Bethlehem? *Refrain*

2 His name is Jesus, God ever with us,

God given for us in Bethlehem. *Refrain*

3 How can he save us, how can he help us,

born here among us in Bethlehem? *Refrain*

4 Gift of the Father, to human mother,

makes him our brother in Bethlehem. *Refrain*

5 One with the Father, he is our Savior,

heaven-sent helper in Bethlehem. *Refrain*

6 Gladly we praise him, love and adore him,

give ourselves to him in Bethlehem. *Refrain*

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000

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Seventh Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12 *The magi follow the star*

L: A reading from the 2nd Chapter of Gospel according to Matthew

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: We Three Kings – WOV #464

- 1 We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

- 2 Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again;
king forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. *Refrain*
- 3 Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising, gladly raising, worshiping God Most High. *Refrain*
- 4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*
- 5 Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
heav'n sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies. *Refrain*

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2:13-18 *The slaughter of the holy innocents*

L: The reading continues in the 2nd Chapter of Matthew.

¹³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: Your Little Ones, Dear Lord ELW #286

- 1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we, and come your lowly bed to see;
enlighten ev'ry soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.
- 2 With songs we hasten you to greet, and kiss the ground before your feet.
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night that gave you birth, our soul's delight.
- 3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, and to us all your grace accord;
true faith and love to us impart, that we may hold you in our heart.
- 4 Until at last we too proclaim, with all your saints, your glorious name;
in paradise our songs renew, and praise you as the angels do.

Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694-1764; tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845-1925, alt.

Ninth Lesson: John 1:1-14 *The mystery of the incarnation*

L: A reading from the 1st Chapter of Gospel according to John.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: Of the Father's Love Begotten ELW #295

- 1 Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.
- 2 Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.
- 3 This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected; let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.
- 4 Let the heights of heav'n adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
pow'rs, dominions, bow before him and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring
evermore and evermore.
- 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory
evermore and evermore! Amen.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; tr. composite

Responsive Prayer

P: Glory to God in the highest,

C: and peace to God's people on earth.

P: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

P: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

C: Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

P: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876

Prayer of the Church

P: With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

P: The church in every land makes a joyful noise to herald your coming, O God. We give thanks for poets, musicians, and hymn writers who give voice to our praise, and for all who lead the church's worship. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: This day dawns with new hope for all living things, and from ocean depths to mountain peaks the earth rejoices. Inspire in us an urgent zeal to protect the planet and renew its resources. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bring heavenly peace to this world and an end to armed conflict. Raise up leaders in every nation who will honor human rights and establish equal justice for all people. Give courage to all who speak out against oppression and advocate for the powerless. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Guard the lives of any in danger, especially those who work to protect others. Lead any who are in desperate circumstances to sanctuary, help, and safety. Grant rest to the weary and soothe those who are troubled (*especially*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bless all who gather to worship on this holy day. Be present at our tables and celebrations, and watch over those who travel. Sustain charities, outreach ministries, and food pantries that give generously to people in need. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: In Christ we have beheld your glory, full of grace and truth. We give thanks for those in every generation who reflect the light of Christ. May their witness shine forth in our time. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Presentation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn: What Child Is This – ELW #296

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Offertory Prayer

P: God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

C: Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P: Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine

Prayer after Communion

P: God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Announcements (Please be seated)

Blessing

P: God bless you and keep you, ✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sending Song

HYMN: Joy to the World ELW #267

- 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.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sin and sorrow 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.
- 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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Helping in Worship

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman
Organist/Choir Director	Carolyn Williams
Acolyte	TBD
Altar	Barb Naska & Nancy Moskella
Lector	Linda Sauter
Greeters	Linda Sauter
Communion Usher	Ben Naska
Council Counting Team	Cathy Mueller & Kathy Hlavaty
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson
Custodian	Dianna Streletz

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK ACTIVITIES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023	10:30 AM	THE NAME OF JESUS - Service of Lessons and Carols

NOTE: There will be no Wednesday Bible study this week
Bible study will resume on January 4, 2023

Please pick up your Poinsettias if you have not done so already!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

OFFICE CLOSED THE WEEK BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS.

BAPTISMS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

	BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES		BAPTISMS
29	Leo Grzelkowski	28	Jayne & Jim Miller (54)	29	Matthew Mueller
30	George Kreitz	30	Laura & Dave Helfrich (16)		



DECEMBER “OUTREACH OFFERINGS” are designated for the *Upper Bucks Code Blue Shelter*. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for Food Basket donations. You can either buy the supplies for the basket or Helen Dungan can shop for you.



Reverse Calendar Challenge!

Our Reverse Advent Calendar challenge is almost complete. The challenge ends on January 8 when we find out which church in the Palisades Area Lutheran Ministry Group has collected the most boxes. The winning church will enjoy a free dinner cooked and served by the other churches in the group. A list of items for each box is available on the table in the Narthex (Lobby)

Please lift up in prayer the following:



For Healing of those in our Congregation: Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Frank Erceg; Virginia Hager; Betty and George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Barbara Naska; Donnie Pyne; Linda Sauter; and Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family: Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Michael Barats; Anthony Beck; Jason Bigley; Kelly Bordelon; Emma Brown; Ollie Butler; Deb Carmichael; Stephanie

Courtney; Miriam Deal; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Chris Fear; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Penni Griffith; Alyse Mesko Hales; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Lauren Keebler; Martine King; Jane Litzenberger; Chelsea Marley; Lenny Marin; Jim McAnally; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Debra Patten; Jennifer Phelps; Dr. Larry Rakowski; Tom Ross; Connie Rugen; Linda Sauter; Lani Schlegel; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Saxton Vargo; Nancy Vetter; Linda Wilson, and Henry Wong.

For those who are Homebound: Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; Silas Rodenbach; and Hal Taylor.

For the grieving: Wanda Altemose; Mary Ellen Jonczyk; Lisa Pezzino; Donald Seipt; Jeffrey Tapler