

* Reading: Isaiah 9

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. ⁴ For 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. ⁶ For 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.

* Hymn # 119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king.
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin’s womb.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king!”

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.
MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

First Reading: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Second Reading: Luke 2:1-20

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.

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. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

* Hymn # 116 "The Snow Lay on the Ground"



1 The snow lay on the ground; the stars shone bright,
 2 'Twas gen - tle Mar - y maid, so young and strong,
 3 Saint Jo - seph too was by to tend the child,
 4 And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne;



when Christ our Lord was born on Christ - mas night.
 who wel - comed here the Christ - child with a song,
 to guard him, and pro - tect his moth - er mild.
 for he whom Mar - y bore was God the Son.



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 She laid him in a stall at Beth - le - hem;
 The an - gels hov - ered round and sang this song:
 O come, then, let us join the heaven - ly host



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 the ass and ox - en shared the roof with them.
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 to praise the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

TEXT: Anglo-Irish carol; Catholic Hymns, 1860, alt.
 MUSIC: Italian folk melody; Children's Prayer, 1871; harm. Leo Sowerby, 1941
 Music: Harm. © 1941 Leo Sowerby

* Hymn # 134 "Joy to the World"

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and
 sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
MUSIC: Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People will come from north and from south and from east and
from west to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

(Dionysius of Alexandria, died 264 CE) (Unison)

**God, good beyond all that is good, fair beyond all that is fair,
in you is calmness, peace and concord.**

**Heal the dissensions that divide us from one another and bring us back to the
unity of love bearing some likeness to your divine nature.**

**Through the embrace of love and the bonds of godly affection,
make us one in the Spirit by your peace which makes all things peaceful.**

(Saint Benedict of Italy, 480-547 CE) (Unison)

**O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you,
intelligence to understand you, patience to wait for you,
eyes to see you, a heart to meditate on you, and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Tithes and Offerings

Rev. Doug Hagler

Leader: Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

Offertory Anthem

“Midnight Clear”

R. Shultz Widmar

Prayer of Dedication

Leader: God of glory, as people brought gifts to the infant Jesus, we bring our
gifts to you. May these gifts be used to lift up the oppressed, to bring deliverance
to those who are in need, to support those who are poor, and to help those who are
in trouble. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed *(unison) Traditional*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,**

6. continued...

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Benediction

Rev. Doug Hagler

Lighting of the Candles

As we sing together, we will light our candles from the Christ candle.

Carol "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus,
Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.**

(Please stand and raise your candle high!)

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

Postlude

"Joy to the World"

Alfred Fedak

The white poinsettias for Christmas Eve are presented to the glory of God and provided by the Grace and Lloyd Ramsey Memorial Fund.

*Thank you for joining us on this special night.
May the Christmas season bring you closer to God and each other.*



Christmas Poinsettias 2021

In Memory Of:

My parents, Louise & Chet Hain	by Jewell Baker
Ronald Varnum (Barb's dad)	by Barb & Gary Giebler
Barry Messere	by Cheryl Messere
Dr. Abram M. Hostetter	by Becky, Ken & Nicholas Sinapius
Andrew J. Hostetter	by Becky, Ken & Nicholas Sinapius
Marian & Don Meckstroth and Helen & Dick Schnaedter	by Rick & Gail Schnaedter
Those impacted by gun violence	by Bob & Chris Wittrock

In Honor Of:

Dorothy Barkley (Rich's mom)	by Rich, Rebecca & Sarah Barkley
Ruth Ann Dabback	by Cheryl Messere

In Appreciation For:

Thank you to all of the musicians:	
Praise Team, Handbells and Choir	by Rich, Rebecca & Sarah Barkley
Trude Hoffman & Carl Biers	by Karen & John Cattafesta
Diane Legnini	by The Choir
The Bell Choir	by Barb & Gary Giebler
All the work done by People to People for our community.	by Barbie & Turrey Kepler
The FPC Session and Deacons	by Bob & Chris Wittrock

Merry Christmas from your church staff.

Rev. Doug Hagler, Pastor

Diane Legnini, Music Director

Sarah Shulman, Praise Team Leader

Maggie O'Malley, Communications Coordinator

Sue Smith, Office Manager

John Allen, Custodian



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