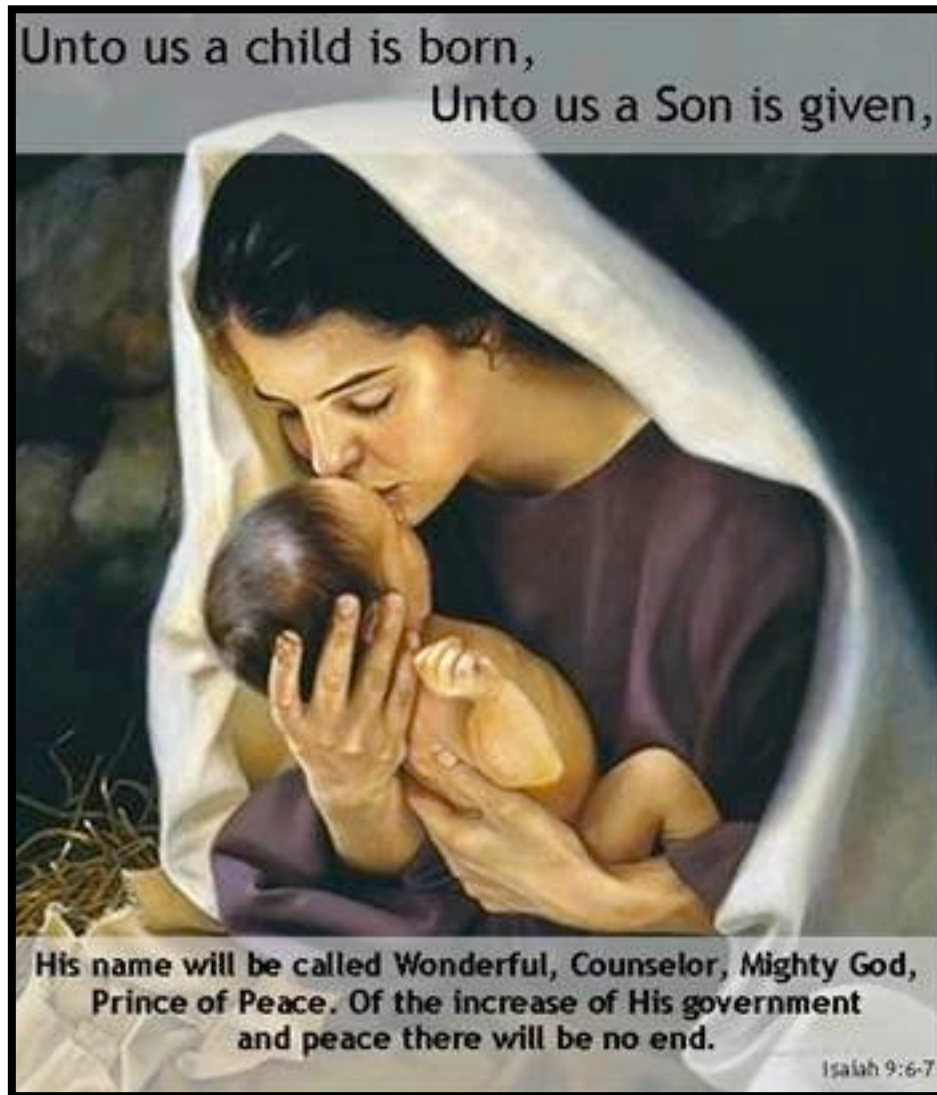


The Festival of the Nativity of Our Lord



Christmas Day – December 25, 2024

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A warm welcome to all on this Christmas Day! Jesus, God's Son, is "Immanuel" – God with us. May the Good News of His redemption and peace go with you today and each day of the future. A special welcome to our visitors. We hope you will come and worship with us again.

Christmas Day Worship 2024

"Remembering the Meaning of Christmas"

Opening Prayer

Hymn

387 – Joy to the World

Welcome and Trinitarian Invocation

P: O Lord, open my lips:

C: And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

P: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth:

C: Burst into jubilant song with music.

P: Sing to the Lord, praise His name:

C: Proclaim His salvation day after day.

P: Shout for joy to the Lord all the earth:

C: Worship the Lord with gladness.

P: Let us pray: Lord God, gracious Father, who in the fullness of time sent Your Son to assume our flesh and become our Brother, we thank You for Your truth and fatherly goodness in giving us this Savior, by whose birth we are delivered from sin, death, Satan, and hell; and we beseech You, keep us until the end in true knowledge of our Redeemer, that, with all the holy angels we may rejoice at His nativity and behold Him, together with You and the Holy Spirit in glory and majesty, forever and ever. Amen.

C: Amen.

1. Remembering the Prophecies of Our Savior

P: God said: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed:

C: He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." Genesis 3:15

P: God made this promise to Abraham: "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed:

C because you have obeyed My voice." Genesis 22:18

P: A Star shall come out of Jacob:

C: A Scepter shall rise out of Israel. Numbers 24:17

P: Moses said: "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers:

C: It is to Him you shall listen."

Deuteronomy 18:15

P: Isaiah said: "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:

C: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

Isaiah 7:14

P: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder:

C: And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

P: But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah:

C: Yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."

Micah 5:2

P: Isaiah also wrote: "Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising:

C: The multitude of camels shall cover your land, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and incense, and they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD."

Isaiah 61:1,6

Hymn

379 – O Come, All Ye Faithful

2. Remembering Our Savior's Birth

P: Luke writes: And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.

C: This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria.

P: So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem,

C: Because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child.

P: So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.

C: And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Hymn

374 – Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

3. Remembering Our Savior's Birth Announcement

P: Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

C: And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

P: Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

C: For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

P: And this will be the sign to you:

C: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”

P: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

C: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

Hymn

361 – O Little Town of Bethlehem

4. Remembering Our Savior's Birth Proclaimed

P: So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another,

C: “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.”

P: And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

C: Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

P: And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

C: But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

P: Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Hymn

388 – Go, Tell It On the Mountain

5. The Meaning of Our Savior's Birth

P: But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

C: To redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

C: And we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

P: For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

C: Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

P: Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be,

C: But we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

1 John 3:1-2

P: In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

C: If God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:9, 11

P: What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

C: He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Romans 8:31-32

Hymn

711 – See in Yonder Manger Low
Worship Supplement 2000

Christmas Sermonette

Text: 1 John 4:9, 10, 14

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. | And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.

How Can We Remember the Meaning of Christmas?

Offering

Christmas Prayer

Benediction

P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C (sings): Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn

390 – Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

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Serving Us Today
Pastor Thomas Schuetze; Organist Lisa Sprengeler
Ushers Bob Rankin, Wayne Ruegge

A Blessed Christmas to All!