

**“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”
God is Still Speaking**

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



An Open and Affirming Congregation

December 24, 2019

11:00 PM



1700 West Main Street, Jeffersonville, PA 19403
(610) 539-1693

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
Nativity of the Lord

December 24, 2019

11:00 PM



Order of Worship

CAROL MEDLEY

Performed by Aaron Mosier

PRELUDE

“O Holy Night” (Phillips)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR
RECEIVING THE LIGHT

INTROIT

“Holy Darkness” (Shutte)

GATHERING CHRISTMAS CAROL

Glory to God 140

Aaron Mosier, soloist

Solo: 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.

all who are able please stand

All singing: 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 mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Savior Holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love.
For the child so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on,
to the place where he has gone.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 2:10-20

page 58

Leader: Christ is born!

All: Alleluia!

Leader: Jesus is among us!

All: Alleluia!

Leader: Shout with joy, give thanks, and sing!

All: Christ is born!

PRAISE RESPONSE

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

PRAYER

in unison

One this day, Gracious Lord, you come to us as word, as light, as flesh. Teach us to know you so well, that our lives may befriend this world you have made, in the name of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrew Lesson

Isaiah 52:7-10

page 683

HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

Glory to God 113

Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-4

page 218

ANTHEM

“Light of the World”

(Martin)

HYMN

“Still, Still, Still”

Glory to God 124

THE SERMON

HYMN

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Glory to God 119

**THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES
OFFERTORY**

“Nestled in the Hay” (Kleinschmidt)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Glory to God 144

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Leader: Holy God, we give you thanks and praise. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You made us in your image; and though we all have sinned and fallen short of your glory, You, loved the world so much you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior. Jesus, Name called Wonderful; Jesus, our great Counselor; Jesus, Son of God; Jesus, Son of Man; Jesus, Prince of Peace;

People: **We praise and bless your Holy name.**

Leader: Jesus, Son of David; Jesus, Branch of Jesse;
Jesus, Lily of the Valley; Jesus, Bright and
Morning Star;

People: Deliver us from our sins.

Leader: Jesus, Scepter of Israel; Jesus, Light of the
Gentiles; Jesus, Desire of all Nations; Jesus, Sun
of Righteousness; Jesus, Law giver, Priest, Judge
and King.

People: Help us and bless us.

Leader: O, Jesus, hear us;

People: and prepare us for your coming.

Leader: As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to
Bethlehem, and they found no room, so Jesus
went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised
and rejected. As in the poverty of a stable Jesus
was born, so from suffering and death you raised
him to bring us life.

Therefore, with the angels who sang glory to you
in the highest and peace to your people on earth,
with your people in all ages and the who
company of heaven, we join in the song of
unending praise, singing:

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO
GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

Leader: As your word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so on the night he offered himself up for us Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying, “This is my body which is broken for you, Do this in remembrance of me.” When the supper was over he took the cup gave thanks to you, gave it to the disciples, saying, “Drink from this all of you for this is the blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” Therefore, in remembrance of all your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which we offer in union with Christ’s sacrifice for us, as a living and holy surrender of ourselves.

COMMUNION HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Glory to God 133

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

in unison

Send the power of your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ; be one body cleansed by Jesus’ blood; faithfully serve in the world and look forward to Christ’s coming in final victory.

BREAKING THE BREAD & POURING THE WINE

Leader: Through the Broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. Through the cup of blessing we share in the new life Christ gives.

People: Let us keep the feast. Amen.

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come, for all things are ready, come and taste and see how good the Lord is.

PARTAKING OF THE MEAL

We will be coming forward down the center aisle to receive communion tonight. A piece of bread will be broken off the loaf, and you may dip the bread into the chalice of wine or the chalice of grape juice.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

in unison

We thank you, Holy God, for giving us this meal, shared in the Spirit, which sustains us with the food and drink of your life. Grace our lives that we may at last come to share in the heavenly banquet of your realm, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

The pastor will light a candle from the Christ Candle and will then light the candles of the ushers; the ushers will then in turn light the candle of each worshipper nearest the center aisle. Unlighted candles should be dipped when lighting it from a neighbor's candle.

Lighted candles should not be dipped, to avoid dripping wax on the floor or neighbor.

Candles will be extinguished following the Charge and Benediction.

HYMN

“Silent Night, Holy Night” *Glory to God 122*
Please lift your candle during the singing of the last verse.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Leader: Go forth to sing and bless God’s name.
People: Glory to God in the highest!
Leader: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.
People: Alleluia! Praise the Lord.
Leader: The Lord look upon you with favor,
and may the true light shine on you.
May the Son sent by God be your guide and
strength. May you go in peace and live in hope,
in Jesus’ name.
candles are extinguished

PRAISE RESPONSE

GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO
GLO -- RIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO

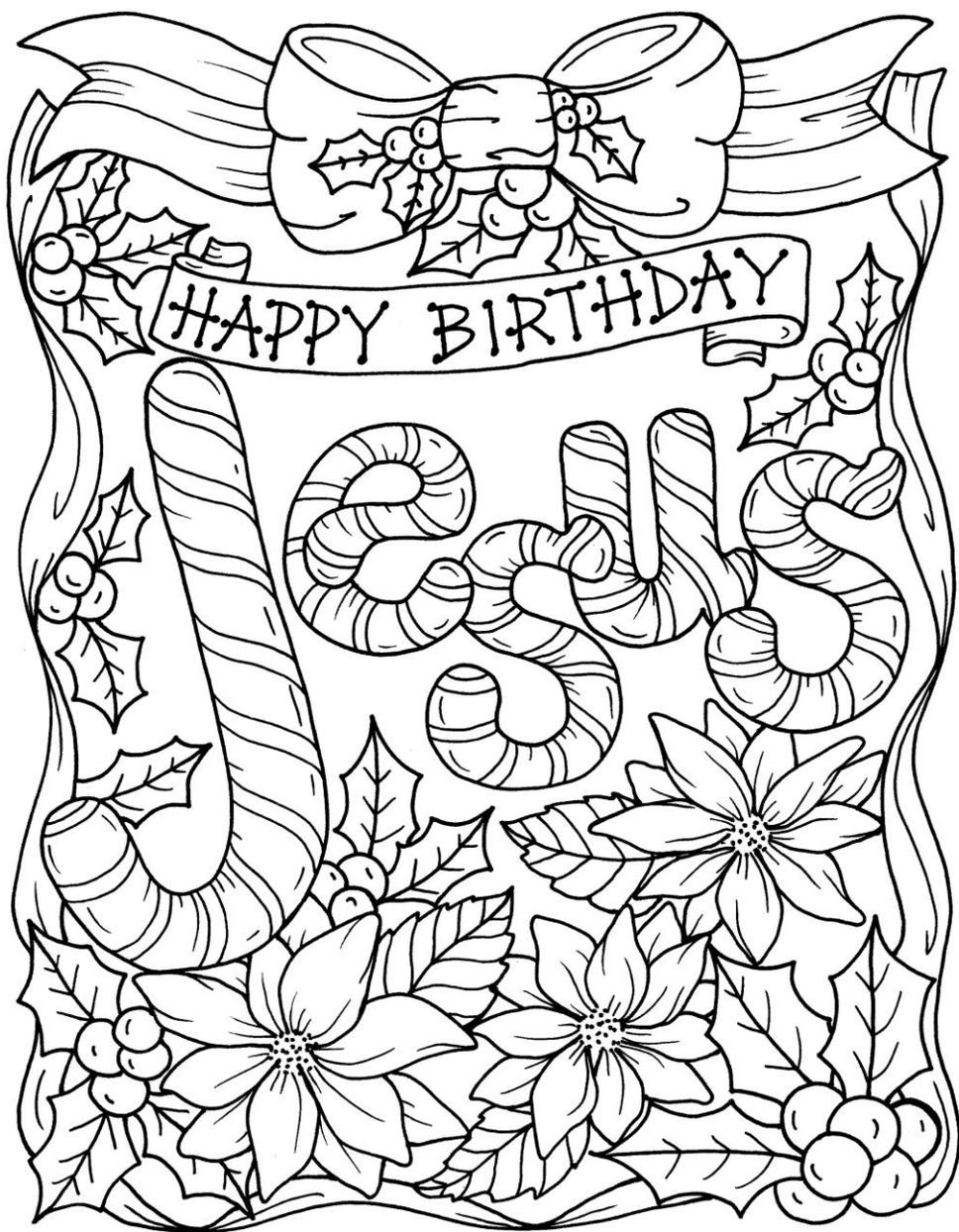
CLOSING HYMN

“Joy To The World” **Verses 1, 2, & 4** *Glory to God 134*

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Joy, Joy, Joy” (Michaels)





We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to your during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.

We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.

Ministers	All the people of the Congregation
Pastor	The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier
Minister of Music	Dan Weckerly
President of the Consistory	Liz Brunton
Vice President of the Consistory	Michele Luke
Secretary of the Consistory	Molly Lorenz
Moderator of Spiritual Council	
Elders:	Liz Brunton, Joan Hagerman, Mary Lambon Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague Graham
Chair of the Diaconate	Michele Luke
Deacons:	Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman
Church Secretary	Judy Parker
Sexton	Emeric Suto
Treasurer	Sandy Maben

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