

“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

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2020



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

www.ascensionucc.org

info@ascensionucc.org

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

“O Holy Night” (Arr. McIntosh)

HAND BELLS

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”
(Tempus Adest Floridum, arr by Cathy Moglebust)
Performed by Jean Akers, Liz Brunton,
Christa Cavanaugh, & Cindy Mosier

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: And the word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, full of grace and
truth. *adapted from John 1:14*

CHRISTMAS CAROL

“Once in Royal David’s City” *soloist: Aaron Mosier*

LITTANY

Leader: Eternal God, in the midst of strife and warfare,
may your peace be known throughout the
world.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: As your church announces the good news of
salvation, may we share the gift of Christ in
prayer and action.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: In sickness, suffering, and need, may your
healing love dispel all darkness.

People: Light of the world, shine in our lives.

Leader: As all creation shouts with joy, may we care for earth, sea, and sky in reverence of you.

People: **Light of the world, shine in our lives.**

Leader: In all of our beginnings and in our endings, may we be one with you eternally.

People: **Light of the world, shine in our lives.**

Leader: Through Christ, with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we praise you, almighty God, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

silent prayer of confession

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrew Lesson Isaiah 52:7-10

HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard On High” *New Century Hymnal* 125

Epistle Lesson 1 Hebrews 1:1-9

Gospel Lesson John 1:1-14

Leader: Holy Wisdom

People: Holy Word

THE SERMON

THE OFFERING OF OUR TITHES & OURSELVES

We want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have mailed in their offerings to the church. The ministry of Ascension Church continues, we need your support. Although we cannot gather in the building right now, we still have our expenses to pay and our outreach continues.

So, please continue to **mail** in your offerings, or you may also opt to contribute **online** through our new **PayPal** account that you can access on our website at ascensionucc.org and go to the Donate page. Please let us know if you encounter any issues accessing PayPal and know that we are grateful for your generosity.

HAND BELLS

“The Bells of Christmas”

(Det Kimer Nu Til Julefest, arr by Cathy Moglebust)

Performed by Jean Akers, Liz Brunton,
Christa Cavanaugh, & Cindy Mosier

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, Son 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 angels who sang to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth, with your people in all ages and the whole 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

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 the last come to share in the heavenly banquet of your realm, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

CAROL

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Glory to God 122

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

Wondrous God, we praise you and bless you for the gift of your only begotten Son, the true light who enlightens everyone that has come into the world. May all who receive him and believe in his name be born anew as beloved children of your redeeming purpose. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

CLOSING CAROL

“Joy To The World”

Glory to God 134

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Bring a Torch”

(Arr. Landis)



The Reformed Church
of the
Ascension
United Church of Christ
Poinsettias
Dedications 2020

**The Poinsettias are given to the glory of God,
in memory of:**

My mother, Margareta Alb, by Stela Suto

Elizabeth Augustine, by Judy Parker

Jerry and Betty Capp, by Pat Angelucci

Doris Kulp, by Pat Angelucci

Arlene Kurylo, by Pat Angelucci

Ginny McCarthy, by Pat Angelucci

Jean & Harry Grimley, by Joan Hagerman

Patricia Zane, by Joan Hagerman

My parents, George & Alma M Klehamer, by George Klehamer

Arlene, Joseph, & Robert Kurylo, by the Kurylo & Dearing Family

Rev. Irvin R. & Mrs. Evelyn Lindemuth, by Irv & Hedy Lindemuth

Mr. & Mrs. Reuben Lindemuth, by Irv & Hedy Lindemuth

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Hartenstine, by Irv & Hedy Lindemuth

Michael & Mary Pontecorvo, by Michele Luke

John Gilner, by Michele Luke

Our grandparents, by Pastor Dwayne & Cindy Mosier

Jerry & EmmaJean Mosier, by Pastor Dwayne & Cindy Mosier

Lillian Evans, Craig Follweiler, James Tanis, Doris Kulp, and

Henry Sellers, by Pastor Dwayne & Cindy Mosier

Kelly Wagner, by Lydia Mosier

Richard Trow, by Kitty Trow

My Parents and Grandparents, by Sue Wendt

The Poinsettias are given to the glory of God, in honor of:

My Children and Grandchildren, by Sue Wendt

Question for Reflection

Christmas Day brings the astonishing news that God is revealed to us in Jesus Christ. Jesus is the imprint of God's being and the reflection of God's glory (Heb. 1:3), and we, in turn, are God's offspring through Christ (John 1:12). How does this news shape your self-awareness and change the way you live?

Household Prayer: Morning

Eternal God, as I celebrate the birthday of Jesus, may I sing of your love all the days of my life, for you have made me your child forever.

In Christ I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

*Lord, I give thanks for the blessings of this day
(which I now name),
and I ask your forgiveness for the places
where I have failed to reveal your love (which I now name).*

*I give thanks that you have become one of us,
that I may become more like you.*

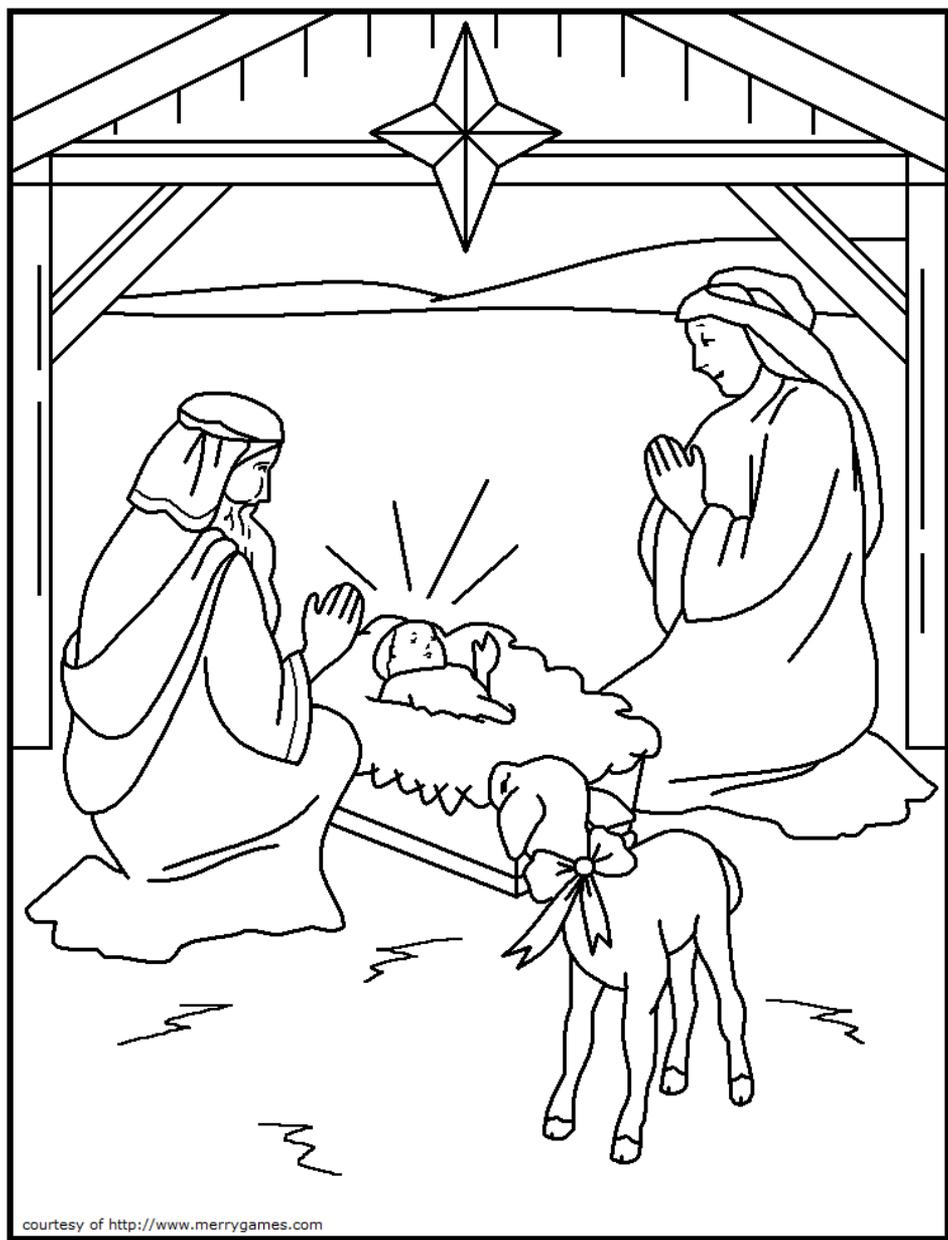
*As I sleep this night,
may your goodness shape me to more lovingly reflect
your light in the world. Amen.*



May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours, and may the coming year be filled with joy.

Merry Christmas!

*from the church staff,
Pastor Dwayne
Sandy Maben
Judy Parker
Emeric Suto
Dan Weckerly*





We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you 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.

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|---|---|
| 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 | Molly Lorenz |
| Elders: | Liz Brunton, Robin Weed, Mary Lambon
Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| Chair of the Diaconate | Michele Luke |
| Deacons: | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce
Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman, Christa Cavanaugh |
| Church Secretary | Judy Parker |
| Sexton | Emeric Suto |
| Treasurer | Sandy Maben |

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