

WORSHIP SERVICE
December 25, 2022
Celebration of the Incarnation ~ Christmas Day!

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude
Welcome

- * God's Greeting
- * We Greet One Another
- * Call to Worship

Joy to the world! Our Lord has come!

Oh come, let us adore Him!

The Lord has done great things for us,

And we behold his hope, his peace, his joy and his love in Jesus Christ.

For the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.

Indeed, the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.

So we live in his grace while we wait for the blessed hope, the glorious appearance of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come!

- * Opening Songs: "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" Lift Up Your Hearts #98

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ was born today.

Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

"How Great Our Joy"

Lift Up Your Hearts #90

While by the sheep we watched at night,
glad tidings brought an angel bright.
How great our joy! (Great our joy!)
Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! (Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!)
There shall be born, so he did say, in Bethlehem a child today.
How great our joy! (Great our joy!)
Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! (Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!)
There shall the child lie in a stall
this child who shall redeem us all.
How great our joy! (Great our joy!)
Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! (Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!)
This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill.
How great our joy! (Great our joy!)
Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! (Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!)

“Jesus, Names Above All Names”

Sing! A New Creation #114

Jesus, name above all names, Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord
Emanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word
Praise him, Lord above all lords, King above all kings God's only Son
The Prince of Peace, who by his Spirit comes to live in us, Master and Friend

* Lighting of the Christ Candle

R1: These past weeks, we have seen the wonder of Christmas in the hope, peace, joy and love

God brought to us through the life of Jesus.

R2: Today, we light the Christ candle as we celebrate his birth- Immanuel, God-with-us, God for us.

R1: In Him, we are not afraid. He is our hope, peace, joy and love, even today.

R2: In Him, we are not afraid.

ALL: Many, O Lord, are the wonders you have done for us.

R1: Amen. For in Jesus, the very best has come, and the greatest joy still awaits.

Song of Response” “He Came Down” vs 5

Sing! A New Creation #92

He came down that we may have life,
He came down that we may have life,
He came down that we may have life,
Hallelujah forever more.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Dear Jesus, you left the splendor of heaven to come to this earth. You healed us, and opened us to your hope, peace, joy and love. Yet, too often we live in worry instead of hope. We criticize instead of building peace. We seek temporary thrills instead of lasting joy. We serve ourselves instead of loving you and others. Through your example, your truth, and the power of your Spirit, please forgive us. Change our hearts and our lives to be more like yours. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Titus 3:3-5

“At one time we too... lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.”

Song of Entrusting: “Once In Royal David’s City” vs 1, 2, 4 Lift Up Your Hearts #87

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.
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.
And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love;
for that child, so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heaven above,
and He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

Children's Message - Advent Sketch: *The Wonder of His Coming*
Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-23 (p:889), Revelation 12:1-6 (p:1145)

Matthew 1:18-23

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

Revelation 12:1-6

12 A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. 2 She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. 3 Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. 4 Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born. 5 She gave birth to a son, a male child, who "will rule all the nations with an iron scepter." And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. 6 The woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

Message: The Wonder of Christmas - God With Us, God For Us

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: "Angels, From the Realms of Glory" vs 1,2,4,5 Lift Up Your Hearts # 81

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.
Shepherds, in the field 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.
Though an infant now we view him, he will share his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.
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.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Hark The Herald Angels Sing" Lift Up Your Hearts #80

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"
Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Candle-Lighters: Kleinwolterink & Saldana family

Children's Message: Kathlyn Copley

Message: Rev Randy Raak

Musicians: Char Verkade, Pam Voss, Mark Voss

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion: Next week we will have the opportunity to celebrate the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is the family table at which we eat together and are nourished with Christ's sacrifice for us. Here (as in Baptism) we celebrate who we are - children of God – and are reminded of God's promises to be our God, to care for us, love us, and be faithful to us. All who are baptized into Christ and have made a public stand for him are welcome to the Lord's Table.

Trinity would like to present the pastor and each of the other church staff members with gifts from the congregation during this advent season. Should you wish to contribute, gifts may be placed in the offering plate on Sundays, **December 18th and 25th**. Please be sure to mark your contribution as "staff gift".

Many thanks to those of you who graciously sponsored the poinsettia plants to help decorate the sanctuary for the Advent season. If the plants are still in good condition, those who paid for a plant may take it home after the Christmas Day service, if you wish.

The Dordt University Concert Choir from Sioux Center, Iowa, invites you to a concert at **7:30 p.m. on Friday, January 6**, at Crossroads Christian Reformed Church in Des Moines. This free concert is part of a spring tour with performances scheduled in Iowa, Minnesota, and North Dakota. Directed by Dr. Rob Hobgood, the Dordt University Concert Choir will perform a wide variety of choral music including hymn arrangements, spirituals, classics from the modern choral repertoire as well as past centuries including Gabrielli, Handel, and Clausen, and several compositions written within the last decade by talented young composers. The concert is free, with a freewill offering received to help defray tour expenses.

Next week's special offering will be for the **Benevolence Fund**. Trinity CRC maintains this special fund in order to have resources available to help members who may experience unexpected or emergency needs.

Looking for some Volunteers to help Rachel Lyare with rides to and from Waukee and Des Moines for her nursing classes. for the month of December. If you think you can help please contact Mary Saucedo. 856-776-6636(call or text) or maryhsaucedo@gmail.com.

Sunday School Schedule for 2022/23: January 8,15,22,29, February 5,12,19,26, March 5,19,26 (12th Spring Break)' April 2,16,23,30 (Easter 9th), May 7 (last day of class)

Pam Whitney will be gone from December 21 - 30. Please try to get announcements in by Tuesday 20th in the AM that week so the bulletin and announcements can get sent out and printed.

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes meet at 10:50 am on Sunday

Breakfast Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the Lincoln Center HyVee at 8:30 AM.

UFO Will meet the 3rd Monday of the Month

Women's Bible Study – Meets the first Monday of the Month.

Next Council meeting will be January 11th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Renew

Christmas Possibility - Next week we celebrate the possibility of being made right with God, starting with the birth of Jesus. He showed us the way to give to people in need. You can give a goat, a family water filter, or a tree pruning kit from World Renew's Gift Catalog at worldrenew.net/gifts, or call 800-552-7972.

Jesus is All of Christmas - As we give and receive gifts today, we celebrate Jesus, God's gift to us! Will you add someone who lives in poverty to your Christmas giving today? Change a life with an item from World Renew's Gift Catalog. Give online at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972.

Other

Tour the Biblical Lands of Israel - March 6 – March 17, 2023. Experience a refreshing renewal of your faith, and gain a deeper understanding of the Bible, as you tour the biblical lands with teaching host, Pastor Peter Tuininga, and Sindbad

Tours of Israel. See many of the biblical places (Jerusalem, Galilee, Caesarea, Jericho, and much more), and gain spiritual and historical insights which will make the Bible come alive for you. For complete information, cost, and registration, go to toursofisrael.wordpress.com or call Peter Tuininga: 1 289 877 8433 or e-mail: peter.tuininga@gmail.com

ReFrame Ministries

Advent: Love as an Action - Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. People usually think of love as a feeling. Did you ever think of love as an action? Well, God's love is active! Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Christmas: God's Gift of Jesus - Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Because God has given us all the gifts of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love at Christmas, we are able to share those gifts too. When we share the gifts of Christmas, we point others to the ultimate gift: Jesus. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Family Fire - Family Fire is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Groundwork: Joseph: The Virgin Birth and Prophecies Fulfilled - It isn't until Joseph receives angelic confirmation that he believes the miracle of the virgin birth. Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 1:18-25 to discuss how this fulfills Old Testament prophecies and gives us confidence to trust in God's continued presence and faithfulness in our lives as we prepare for his second coming. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

CRC Communications

Begin 2023 with Free CRC Leadership Training - Register now to take the Thriving Essentials virtual training in January at no cost (limit 25 persons). The two, 2-hour-long Zoom sessions (Jan. 11 + 18) can help get all church leaders on the same page concerning the key concepts of Mission, Discipleship, Discernment, and Leadership. Take the class for yourself, then decide if attendance would benefit your core church leadership. More info at: crcna.org/Thrive

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Randy Raak

Sound : Tom Whitney

Nursery: No Nursery
Children's message: Kathlyn Copley
Greeters: Voss
Candlelighters: Kleinwolterink & Saldana family

Greeters

December 25 Voss
January 1 Hallihan
January 8 Hertz
January 15 Hobson
January 22 Hubert
January 23 Hufford

Nursery

December 25 No Nursery for holiday
January 1 Rachel and Kristy
January 8 Melody and Cassie
January 15 Jessica and Pam
January 22 Donna and Kenzie
January 29 Elaine and Chloe

Pastor Randy Raak: pastor@amestrinity.org or 928-699-9329

**Elders: A-G=Brian Sterenberg: H-K = Melody Franje: L-S = Mark Voss: T-Z=Jeff
Kopaska**

**Deacons: A-G =Tina VanDyk: H - K =Pam Niemeyer: L-S =Judy Oltman: T-Z Mary
Sauceda**