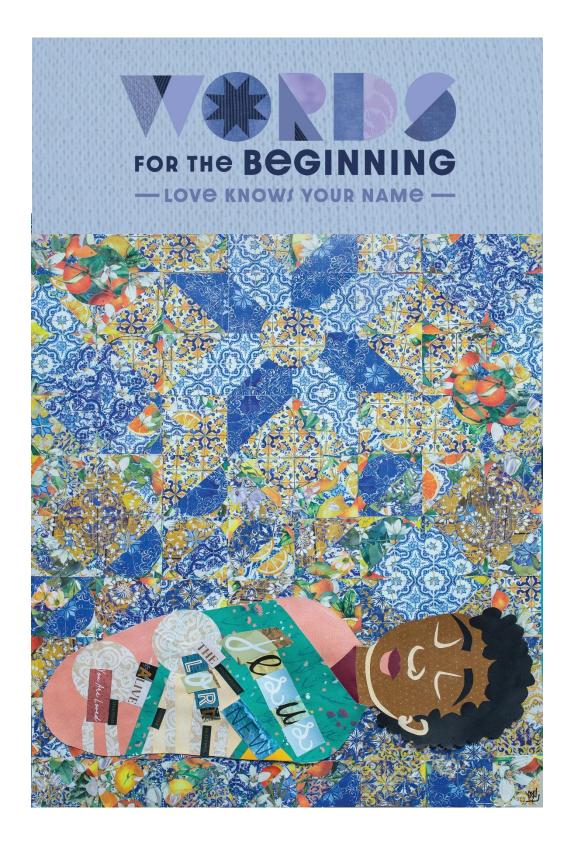
Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve Worship December 24, 2024 7:00 & 10:00 PM



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP!

- It is a joy to welcome our visitors! Please sign the guest book in the Communication Center at the rear of the church, to the right as you exit, and take a Welcome Packet which is filled with information about Harrold Zion. Please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave worship. We hope you return soon! Follow us on social media!
- **Children's bags** are available in the Narthex.
- **There is a prayer request book** on a podium in the Welcome Center. Please write name(s) in the book prior to the service to have names included in the prayers.
- **Large print bulletins** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **Hearing devices** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **An AED machine** can be found on the wall after the Ladies Room on the left.
- **Receiving Holy Communion** We believe the body and blood of Christ to be present in the bread and wine. All who are baptized are invited to share in this meal. Please come forward at the usher's direction. Non-communing children may come forward for a blessing. If you desire communion in the pew, please inform one of the ushers so that you may receive communion there.

GATHERING – We are brought together to remember who and whose we are.

Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude: 7 pm & 10:00 pm Duet: He is Born Osman

The Christmas Proclamation

(7:00 PM) Bell Choir Anthem Go, Tell it on the Mountain

<u>The Call to Worship</u> *You are invited to stand.*

In the name of the Father and of +the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Unto us a child is born, unto us a child is given! **Alleluia!**Unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord! **The word became flesh and dwelled among us.**

The Entrance Hymn #283 O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

The Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **Amen.**

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection. You may kneel or sit, as able.

Holy God, we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. + In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **Amen.**

You are invited to stand, as able.

The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For 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. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For 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. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

(7pm) Choir Anthem: Carol of the Questioning Child Soloists: Abigail Eckles and Kelsey Coppetti

Psalmody: Psalm 96

¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

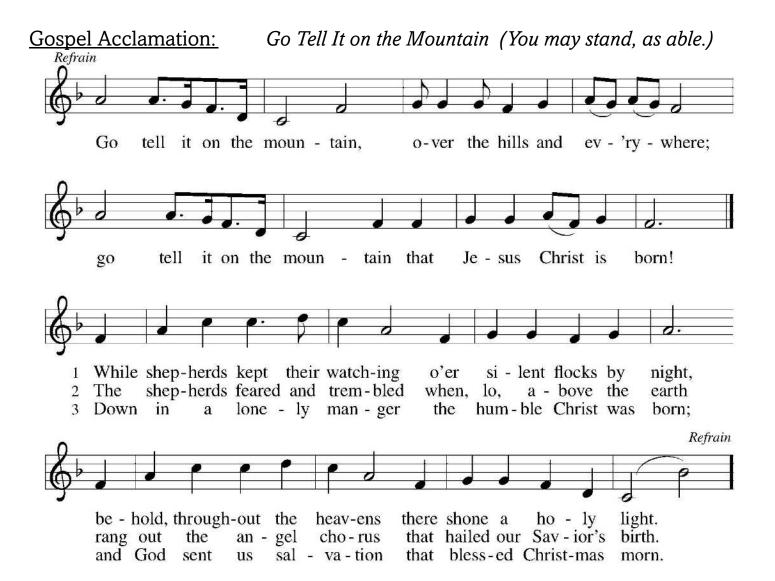
¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The 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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(7pm) Children's Message

<u>Sermon</u>

Hymn #270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us, and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scripture; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

(petitions)...Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.** (prayer concludes)...**Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering:

Choir Anthem Peace is Only a Starry Night

MEAL – We are built up and nourished to be the body of Christ in the world.

Offertory #279 O Little Town of Bethlehem

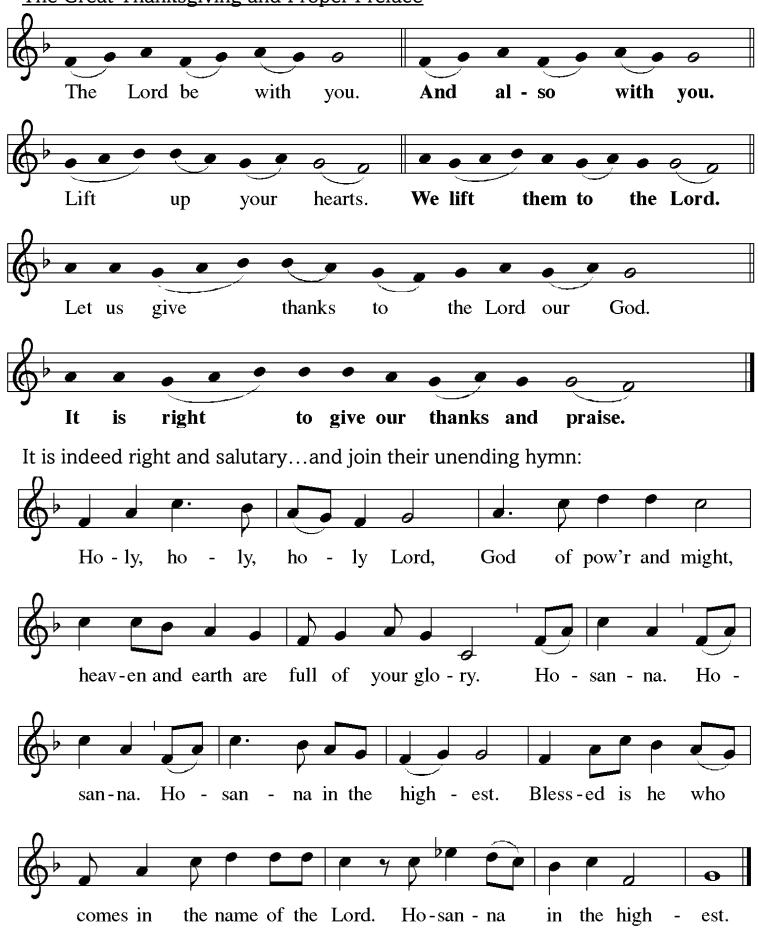
O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

Offering prayer

Let us pray together. God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface



Eucharistic Prayer ELW III

Holy One,...the mystery of faith.

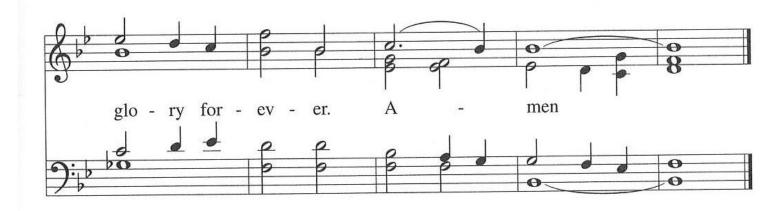
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

- ...We look with hope for his coming. Come, Lord Jesus.
- ...Bring the gift of peace on earth. Come, Holy Spirit.
- ...one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer – Sung

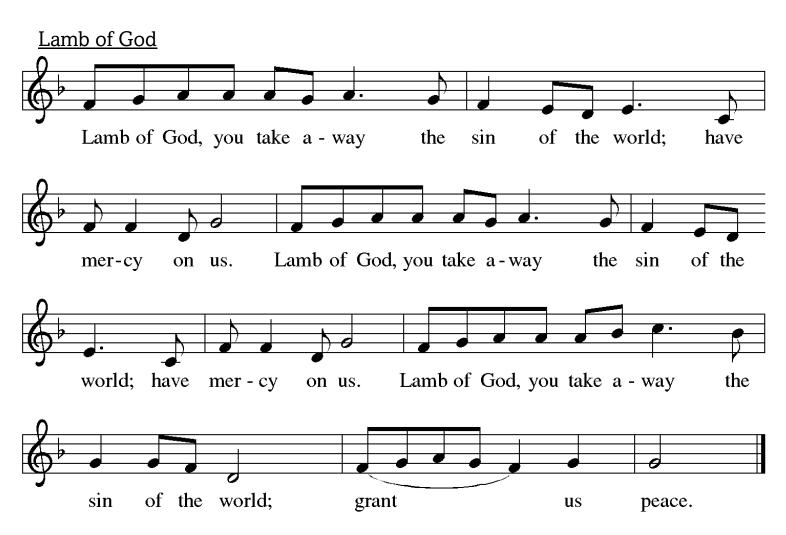






Breaking the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, one and all. Please be seated.



The proclamation is shared for those communing at home (online) or in pew with an all-in-one kit.

Sharing the elements:

The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you. *Each person may respond:* **Amen.**

The leaders share Holy Communion.

The assembly is invited to come forward by the direction of the ushers by the center aisle and receive Holy communion, then return via the side aisle.

We will receive by continuous distribution. Gluten free wafers are available and grape juice is in the center of the tray.

Please join us in singing the Communion hymns on the next pages:

#289 Angels We Have Heard on High Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

#296 What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

#275 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the fields 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.

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star.

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.

#276 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.

Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:

Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

SENDING – We are set out to share hope and make disciples.

Post-Communion Blessing *You are invited to stand.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together. God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please only tilt the unlit candle to prevent wax from dripping.

Hymn and Candlelighting #277 Away in a Manger
Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

After all have a lit candle:

Reading of the Gospel of John 1:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people

did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Hymn #281 Silent Night

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round you 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, Heav'nly 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 your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Closing Prayer

We rejoice in God's steadfast presence in our lives, born of Mary. **May the light of Christ lead us as we carry the good news into the world!** Amen.

You may extinguish your candles.

Blessing

God bless you and keep you, + Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn #267 Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Christmas Postlude Stickles

Please place candles in the bin as you exit the church.

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THANK YOU to all of the instrumentalists and vocalists:

Don Freeman, and Evan Schlegel, guitar; Teresa Litsinger, Flute, Lori Farrell, Piano, Abigal Eckles and Kelsey Coppetti, Youth Soloists and to the Bell Choir, Adult Choir, and all who participated in any way.

THE ETERNAL CANDLE is dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of my my husband, Denny by Karen Henry.

THE BULLETIN is dedicated to the glory of God and in loving honor of Our Family with all our love, Denny & Karen Henry.

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

Lectors: 7:00 PM Kelsey Coppetti

10:00 pm Shawn Carolan Acolytes 7:00 PM TBD

10:00 PM Katelyn Holsopple

Communion Assistants: 7:00 PM Brad Zundel, Chad Altman

10:00 PM Bob & Susie Eicher

Ushers Jeff Lydic, Larry Myers, Rob Hepler, Curtis Heasley, Lucas Toohey, Tony & Jaime Gacek.

Altar Guild: Susie Eicher, Kerry Fitch

The poinsettias are presented to the glory of God and are placed as follows:

Andy, Jen & Heidi Koehl In Memory of Loved Ones

Denny & Sue Ernette In Memory of Our Parents

Lori & Rich Farrell In Honor of Our Families

Norman & Linda Bono In honor of our Children and Grandchildren,

In Memory of Ralph & Alice Bono & Jack & Barbara Beluh

Faye Campbell, In Memory of Richard Campbell, Ken Wilkinson & Julia

and Tom Kidd

Glen & Marilyn Nickodemus In Honor of Michelle & Denise

Judy Miller In Memory of Rick Miller

Mary Lou & John Millward In Memory of All of our Loved Ones

Toni Fait & Family In memory of Lloyd Fait

Barb Appleby In Honor of My Children, Grandchildren & Great

Grandchildren & In Memory of Loved Ones

Dale Mertz In memory of My Wife, Judy

Cindy & Mel Veverka Thankful for Our Blessings

Donna & Family In Memory of Merle Mull

Fred & Sandy Umbaugh In Honor of Our Children & Grandchildren

Heather Rigoni & Gunar In Memory of Shelby Sisco

Paul, Mandy, Ella & Isaac In Memory of Our Mother Elizabeth

Schadle & Our Mother Wanda Kanouff

Rob & Jennifer Hepler In Honor of Our Children & Grandchildren

Wayne & Doris Kebe In Honor of Our Family

Curtis & Rita Heasley In Honor of Our Family

Frank & Marilyn Rassmann In Honor of Children, Grandchildren &

Great Grandchild, Adaline and In Memory of parents Harold

& Lorraine Johnson and William & Louise Rassman

Dennis Barnett In Memory of Helen & Albert Barnett, Debbie Barnett

Mary Ann Brown In Memory of Beloved Husband, Melvin D. Brown

Bob & Susie Eicher In Honor of Children & Grandchildren, In Memory of Loved

Ones

Jerry Starenchak In Honor of Children and Grandchildren

John & Donna Dorsey In Memory of John Dorsey Sr & Jerry Dorsey

Karen, Brian & Rachel Fritz In Memory of Gene Fritz

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP

Altar Flowers: January 11, 12 (2 vases)

Roses: January 4, 5 (2 Roses) January 11,12 (2 Roses)

Candle: December 28,29, January 4,5 **Bulletin:** December 28,29, January 4,5

To sponsor items, please sign up in the Communication Center

Church Staff and Office – 724-837-7327

Rev. Andrew Fitch, Senior Pastor <u>pastorfitch@outlook.com</u>

Rev. Caroline Clifford, PhD, Asst. Pastor <u>pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com</u>

Robyn Henry, Secretary <u>robynhzlc@gmail.com</u>

Laurie Racculia, Director of Music Ministries <u>lracculia@yahoo.com</u>

Debby Schlegel, Custodian

Joanne Gebhardt, Sunday Organist

Melanie Altman, Saturday Organist