

Liturgy
December 25, 2022
Christmas Day

Welcome and Announcements

Musical Prelude

Call to Worship

All God's people — boys and girls, women, men: come and worship! Shepherds, Magi, saints, and angels: come and worship! come and worship! All who need the Savior, all who long for comfort: come and worship, come and worship Christ, the newborn King!

Song of Adoration: Hymn #214 – “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Prayer of Invocation

Song of Praise: Hymn #201 – “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Song of Thanksgiving: Hymn #200 – “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Confession of Faith

Minister: Christians, what do you believe.

Congregation: We believe the Word was in the form of God and did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped. He emptied himself, took the form of a servant, and was born in our own likeness. We believe he humbled himself and became obedient unto death. We believe God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name. We believe that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, every knee in heaven and on earth and under the earth. We believe that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

—based on Philippians 2:6-11

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:1-20

Confession of Sin

Minister: Let us confess our sin.

Congregation: O God, in the beginning you spoke, and creation was born, the object of your loving care. In the fullness of time you spoke, and the Word became flesh, Jesus, gift of your love. We wonder at the miracle of creation; we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation. Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith, empty of hope, lacking in love. This year let the miracle and mystery of Christmas happen for us again. We wait upon you with ready hearts, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear now the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sin and trust in Christ: Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. People of God, through the coming of Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate, the Lord has comforted and redeemed us too! In Christ we receive the salvation of our God. Glory to God in the highest! — based on Isaiah 52:9-10; Luke 2:14

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession – Mr. Dennis Ferris, Ruling Elder

Song of Preparation: Red Book #39 – “Joy Has Dawned”

Sermon: Guest pastor: Rev. Ed Veldhuizen, “Jesus the Christ: The Light of the World”

Scripture: “In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it,” John 1:4-5

Outline:

- I. The Pre-Incarnate Light

- II. The Incarnate Light

- III. The Risen & Reigning Light

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to Communicants
Words of Institution
Distribution of the Elements
Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Collection of Tithes and Offerings

" 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 him my heart." (“In the Bleak Midwinter” by Christina Rossetti)

Closing Song: Hymn #210 – “Silent Night! Holy Night! verses 1,3

Benediction

Jesus is the Word made flesh in our midst. May his incarnation fill your hearts with joy and peace. O Lord, give us peace. Jesus is the promised Savior, born of Mary. May his birth among us renew your hope. Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. May the gift of his presence bring forth rejoicing. O Lord, give us joy. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.