



THE NATIVITY *in*
Scripture
& *Song*

CHRIST CHURCH
Christmas Eve 2018

And a Redeemer will come to Zion . . .

Isaiah 59.20

ORDER of WORSHIP

Christmas Eve, 5pm

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chuck Colson

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Josh & Sarah Shuck

Please take a moment of silence to prepare your heart for worship.

INTROIT

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Wesley

Children's Choir

INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

John Lawler

After our congregational supplications, we say the prayer our Savior has taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Luke 1.26-38

Reader, Zoe Reeves

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

After the lesson, we respond:

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

⊕ HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Brooks

SECOND LESSON

Luke 1.46-56

Reader, Luke Rogers

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has

⊕ *Indicates that the congregation stands.*

shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.” And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

After the lesson, we respond:

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

⊕ HYMN

What Child Is This?

Dix

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. And, in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,* the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The “holy catholic Church” refers to the entire company of God’s redeemed people throughout the world and across the centuries.*

THIRD LESSON

Luke 1.67-80

Reader, Marleigh Romine

And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

After the lesson, we respond:

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Midwinter

Holst

Music Ensemble

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*Our God heav'n cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.*

*Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But His mother only in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.*

*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 can I give Him? Give my heart.*

Then, after the offering, we thank God for his gifts by singing the Doxology.

⊕ **Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2.1-7

Reader, Abby Lee

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

After the lesson, we respond:

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

CAROL

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Reed

Music Ensemble

*Infant holy, infant lowly
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all
Swift are winging angels singing,
Noels ringing, tidings bringing;
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Christ the Babe 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 Babe was born for you.
Christ the Babe was born for you.*

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2.8-20

Reader, Molly Magee

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After the lesson, we respond:

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

⊕ HYMNS

Silent Night

Gruber

Angels, We Have Heard On High

Barnes

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CHRIST CHURCH STAFF

Chuck Colson | Pastor | ccolson@christchurchmandarin.orgJohn Lawler | Assistant Pastor | jlawler@christchurchmandarin.orgCharlotte Reeves | Administrative Assistant | admin@christchurchmandarin.orgAlec Cotton | Youth Director | acotton@christchurchmandarin.orgAllison Ristau | Children's Ministry Coordinator | aristau@christchurchmandarin.orgAndy Zipf | Director of Music | azipf@christchurchmandarin.org



ADVENT
at CHRIST CHURCH