

**Trinity Church with**  
**Renewed Life**  
**Christmas Eve**

**Prelude**

Songs of praise

**Welcome** – Pr. Pettit and Pr. Hukki

**Christmas Proclamation**

Many ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image; long after the great flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant; twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom; eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king, in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome; the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace,

Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother— now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

Text: Traditional, adapt. Brian T. Johnson, From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

*O Come All Ye Faithful*     UMH #234 vs. 1 & 3

1. 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.

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God,  
all glory in the highest; [*Refrain*]

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will  
forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:9

Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbors.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against  
You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You  
with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as  
ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For  
the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and  
forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in  
Your ways, to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

*All offer prayers of confession in silence.*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive all your sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* UMH #230 vs.1 & 4

1. 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.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Public Domain

*Luke 2: 1-7*

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph 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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And 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.

*Away in a Manger* UMH #217 vs. 1 & 3

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky look down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

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

Public Domain

*Luke 2:8-15*

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” <sup>15</sup>When 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.”

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing* UMH #219 vs. 1 & 2

1. 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 th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

*Refrain*

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th’incarnate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*[Refrain]*

Public Domain

*Luke 2: 16-20*

<sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But

Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Sermon – Pr. Pettit & Pr. Hukki

*Joy to the World*      UMH #246 vs. 1 & 2

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 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, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Public Domain

## Offering

The question for each of us: Of what God has entrusted to me, what is mine to keep and where shall I give the rest? Let us prayerfully discern our offering to God, for the sake of the word.

## Doxology

Praise God for these gifts that we of - fer to - day  
and bless them for good in the world, this we pray.  
Praise Je - sus, the Christ - Child, our Hope and our Stay,  
the Spi - rit, our Kee - per, our guide on the way.

## **Words of Institution**

The Word became flesh and Jesus dwelt among us, and as a servant, emptied himself of might upon the cross, and as the risen Anointed One is enthroned at God's right hand to bring mercy and justice to all the earth at the end of days.

This same Lord Jesus, in the night in which he was handed over, took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead  
us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine  
is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.  
Amen.**

Bread is broken, the table is set. All are welcome to come to the banquet, taste and see that the Lord is good. The body and blood of Christ given for you.

## **Communion**

*John 1:1 & following*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was

life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. And 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.

We form a circle. Lights are turned out. Candles are lit.

*Silent Night*                      UMH #239 vs.1-4

1   Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round  
yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2   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!

3   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 your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

4. Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with  
the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Public Domain

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

As you go, offer peace to one another.

Trinity Reminder – One service this weekend at Grace at 9am