



**She will bear a son, and
you shall call his name
Jesus, for he will save his
people from their sins.**

Matthew 1:21

*Congregation please rise

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“WE SHINE THE SPOTLIGHT ON CHRIST”

Worshiping God ... The Light of the World!

DECEMBER 24, 2025
5:30PM

PRELUDE *In dulci jubilo* Marcel Dupré

Dennis Bergin, organ

In sweet rejoicing now sing and be joyful.
Our heart's delight lies in the manger, and
shines as the sun in his mother's lap.
You are Alpha and Omega.

(attr. Heinrich Suso, 14th Century)

Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol Gerald Near

WELCOME

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP *O Come, All You Unfaithful*

Mary Heyl, soloist; Carrie Smith, piano; Matt Brantley, bass;
Arianna Stout, Billy Stulac, guitar; Greg Wagener, drums

O come all you unfaithful, Come weak and unstable,
Come know you are not alone.
O come barren and waiting ones, Weary of praying,
Come see what your God has done.

Chorus: Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.

O come bitter and broken, Come with fears unspoken,
Come taste of His perfect love.
O come guilty and hiding ones, There is no need to run,
See what your God has done. (*Chorus*)

He's the Lamb who was given slain for our pardon;
His promise is peace for those who believe. (Repeat)

So come though you have nothing, Come He is the offering,
Come see what your God has done. (*Chorus*)

PROMISE Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

FULFILLMENT Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

***GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** Isaiah 52:7-10

Reverend David Barnes, Associate Pastor

Pastor: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

People: **The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.**

Pastor: Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

People: **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.**

***CHRIST OUR GOD DESCENDED! NO. 193** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

***WE INVOKE HIS PRESENCE**

GOD REVEALS HIS ONLY SON! Luke 2:1-7

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John

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.

THE KING OF KINGS SALVATION BRINGS! NO. 213 *What Child is This***GOD REVEALS THE GOOD NEWS!** Luke 2:8-10

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.”

WITH HEARTS OF LOVE AND HYMNS OF JOY *The Wexford Carol*

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind
What tiny child to us is born in Bethlehem this blessed morn.

Now let our hearts and voices raise a song of gladness this Christmas Day.
Let all the earth rejoice and sing the birth of this our newborn king

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom the angels did appear which put the shepherds in great fear.

“Prepare and go,” the angels said, “To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you’ll find, this happy morn, a holy babe, sweet Jesus born.”

With hearts of love and hymns of joy, come let us greet the baby boy,
And as the angels has foretold let all the tiny child behold.
Within a manger he was laid and by his side his mother stayed.

Let all the earth sing with delight, the holy child is born this night.

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***GOD REVEALS HIS WONDROUS SIGN!** Luke 2:11-14

“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!”

***GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING! No. 203** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

GOD FULFILLS HIS PROPHECY! Luke 2:15

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.”

THE WONDROUS GIFT WAS GIVEN! No. 201 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

GOD REVEALS CHRIST THE LORD! Luke 2:16-20

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.

***GOD IS MAN, MAN TO DELIVER! No. 217** *All My Heart This Night Rejoices*

GOD REVEALS HIS WORD Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

SCRIPTURE TEXT Romans 15:8-13

TITLE *That's One Tough Root*

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.” And again it says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.” And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.” And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

CHRIST, THE SAVIOR IS BORN! *Silent Night

**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.**

**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 Thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**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!**

GOD WITH US 1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

GOD OF GOD, LIGHT OF LIGHT! NO. 208 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE *Magnificat VI Gloria* Marcel Dupré**

You and your family
are welcome
to join us every Sunday
for Worship at
10:30 AM

Have a blessed Christmas!

**O Come Let us Adore Him,
Christ the Lord!**