

Trinity United Church of Christ



Nativity of the Lord Proper I December 24, 2021

*Indicates when people are invited to stand

We Gather

Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

Welcome

* Call to Worship: Robert Miller

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song;

People: sing unto the Lord, all the earth.

Leader: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

People: tell of his salvation from day to day.

Leader: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

People: he is to be revered above all gods.

*Processional Hymn: *Joy to The World*

*Opening Prayer:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. God, Creator of all life, you made us in your image and sent your Son to be our flesh. Grant us now in this glad time of his birth, that we, who have been born again through his grace, may daily find all things made new in him. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

*Gloria in Excelsis (in unison)

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Lighting the Christ Candle: Pastor Jessica and Family

One: Jesus Christ is the Light of the World

People: A light that no darkness can extinguish!

*Choral Response O Come, O Come Emmanuel
(Verses 1 and 5)

A Time for Christmas Discovery

*Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our minds and hearts
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that we may hear and rejoice
in the gospel of our Savior's birth,
told in the story and song this night.
Amen.

We Listen

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7
 Psalm 96
 Hebrews 1:1-12

Gavin Larson
Lexi Larson
MB Brainerd

*Carol: O Come All Ye Faithful

*Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20 Pastor Jessica

Sermon: "A Christmas Meditation" Pastor Jessica

We Respond

Call for Tithes and Offerings

In Jesus, we find hope, peace, joy, and love, and see the contribution that one person can make. In the spirit of Christmas, let us give our gifts joyfully for the service of all.

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

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, who continues to bless us even as we stand together in this place, we offer to you our gifts with grateful hearts. Help us to use these gifts, that we might use them to spread your loving spirit throughout the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Communion Carol: A Tiny Child Will Come

*Eucharistic Prayer:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You created light out of darkness
And brought forth life on the earth.
You formed us in your image
And breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away and our love failed,
Your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
Made covenant to be our sovereign God,
And spoke to us through your prophets.
You loved the world so much
You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior.

As the angels sang glory to you in the highest
And peace to your people on earth,
So, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
We praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your son Jesus Christ.
As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem
And there found no room,
So, Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem
And was despised and rejected.

As in the poverty of a stable, Jesus was born, so by baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
You gave birth to your church,
Delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
And made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

As your word became flesh, born of a woman,
On that night long ago,
So, on the night in which he gave himself up for us
He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
Gave it to his disciples and said,
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
Gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said,
"Drink from this, all of you;
This is my blood of the new covenant,
Poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so
In remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
As a holy and living sacrifice,
In union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will Come again.

Leader: Pour out your holy spirit on us, gathered here,
And on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
That we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit, make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one with in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes again in final victory
and we feast as his heavenly banquet.

And now we pray the prayer Jesus taught his disciples, saying:

*The Lord's Prayer (in unison):

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Leader: Come, for all things have been made ready.

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

We give you thanks, most gracious God,
For allowing us to share in this feast as your family
And to be fed with the bread of heaven;
Give us grace that we may all grow in love,
Glorifying you in all things,
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

We Depart

*Closing Hymn: Silent Night

Carrying the Light into the World

*Benediction

One: Go in peace and joy to love and serve the Lord.

All: We are sent in the name of the Christ Child.

One: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

GO in peace and joy to love and serve the Lord, for we are sent in the name of the Christ Child. Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Instrumental music performed by Cammeron Williams

Worship Notes and Resources:

The music in our worship today is reproduced via our CCLI License number: **2809801**

First Sunday after Christmas Worship Concert



Join us during worship on **December 26th** for a very special musical service! Our music director, Cammeron Williams, has gathered extraordinary singers and musicians to perform a pre-recorded holiday concert like no other before seen at Trinity UCC. We hope you will join us to see these performances in their entirety!