

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prepare your hearts for worship.

***CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER**

John 1:1, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

AWAY IN A MANGER

Children's Choir

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Charles Wesley; Felix Mendelssohn

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 hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem. Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King.

Christ by highest heav'n adored. Christ the everlasting Lord. Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, hail th'incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King.

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace. Hail the Sun of Righteousness. Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings. Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die. Born to raise the sons of earth. Born to give them second birth. Hark the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.

***COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS**

Charles Wesley; Mark Hunt

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high appear. Come thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear. O'er the hills the angels singing news glad tidings of a birth, go to him your praises bringing Christ the Lord has come to earth.

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end, by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer Shepherd Friend. Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall, this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

OFFERING

***THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION**

Indelible Grace Music

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord, she is His new creation by water and the Word. From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride; with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one over all the earth; her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth; one holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food, and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war, she waits the consummation of peace forevermore; 'til, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blessed, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won. O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

SERMON

John 1:14-18 The Word Became Flesh

***O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL**

Oakley; Wade

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.

O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing choirs of angels. Sing in exultation. O sing all ye bright hosts of heav'n above. Glory to God all glory in the highest.

Yea Lord we greet Thee, born this happy morning. Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.¹ The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic² church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹ Heidelberg Catechism 44: Why does the creed add, "He descended to hell"? A. To assure me in times of personal crisis and temptation that Christ my Lord, by suffering unspeakable anguish, pain, and terror of soul, especially on the cross but also earlier, has delivered me from the anguish and torment of hell.

² "catholic" means universal

CONFESSION OF SIN & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE LORD'S SUPPER

***BENEDICTION & CLOSING SONG**

Holy God, in love, became, Perfect Man to bear my blame. On the cross He took my sin. By His death I live again.

In a stable hope was born for a world by sinners torn. Jesus, full of mercy, came; rescued us for His great name!

