Carmel Presbyterian Church Second Sunday of Christmas January 2, 2022 10:00 AM

Greeting and Announcements

Prelude Forest Green Dale Wood

(O Little Town of Bethlehem)

* Call to Worship

The Christ child is born! All you who would find him, prepare for a journey, as determined as the Magi. All you who would praise him, come with the faith to follow but a star. All you who would worship him, come with humility to the child who shows forth the immeasurable riches of God.

* HYMN #68

What Star Is This, with Beams so Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Call to Confession

In repentance and rest is our salvation, in quietness and trust is our strength, but we would have none of it.

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to us; therefore he will rise up to show us compassion.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and one another in both our actions and our inactions. We recognize that in Jesus Christ our light has come, yet often we choose to walk in shadows and ignore the light. Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us the veil of darkness that shrouds our lives. Illumined by your Word and sacrament, may we rise to the radiance of Christ's glory. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

* Gloria Patri (Hymn No. 567) – "Glory to the Father" — (Gloria Patri)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen.

^{*} Please stand if you are able.

* Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Children's Message – Pastor Ashley

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray,

God of light and life, open our eyes as well as our ears, so that we may not only hear your Word preached today but then see your Word lived out in our lives and in your world, through Christ, our Lord, the light of the world. Amen.

First Testament Reading —

The first reading is taken from Isaiah 60, beginning with the 1st verse. Listen as I read God's Word:

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

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

* HYMN #205

All Hail to God's Anointed (Psalm 72)

ROCKPORT

Epistle Reading -

Our second reading is taken from the 3^{rd} chapter of Ephesians, beginning with the 1^{st} verse. Listen as I read God's Word:

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

The gospel reading is taken from the 2^{nd} chapter of Matthew, beginning with the 1^{st} verse. Listen as I read God's Word:

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Sermon – Pastor Ashley

* HYMN (insert)

In the Darkness Shines the Splendor

IRBY

Invitation to the Offering

(Our hearts are open, and our ministries are continuing seven days a week. Your contribution or pledge payment sustains our presence as the church to the community—both local and global. Please place your offering in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary, give online, or mail your offering envelope to the church office.)

Offertory

Mary Rocking, Gently Rocking
Sanctuary Choir

Traditional Welsh Lullaby arr. Hal H. Hopson

Mary rocking, gently rocking, rocking Jesus, Holy Child.
Angels singing, sweetly singing: Glory be to God on high.
Holy Jesus, born to save us, in your mother's arms now rest.
Mary rocking, gently rocking, rocking Jesus, Holy Child.

Shepherds running, swiftly running, running on to Bethlehem town. Bright star shining, brightly shining, shining forth to show the way. Holy Jesus, born to save us, in your mother's arms now rest. Shepherds running, swiftly running, running on to Bethlehem town.

Wise men traveling, stately traveling, traveling on to find the child. Bright star shining, brightly shining, shining forth to guide the way.

Holy Jesus, born to save us, in your mother's arms now rest. Wise men traveling, stately traveling, traveling on to find the child.

* Doxology No 592 – "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (DOXOLOGY)

* Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray:

Bright Morning Star, your light has come, and your birth, O Jesus, has overwhelmed us with joy. Like the Magi of long ago, may we be drawn to you and offer you such gifts as we are able. Amen.

THE MEAL

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving for the Work of God in Creation

*HYMN 581 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord SANCTUS

Thanksgiving for the Work of Christ

in order that we might know that the one who was crucified is the Lord and Savior of the world:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Prayer for the Work of the Spirit and Lord's Prayer

Blessing of the Elements

The Distribution What Is This Lovely Fragrance Dale Wood

Sending Prayer

* HYMN (insert) We Are Marching in the Light of God SIYAHAMBA

(from the Glory to God Hymnal)

Chimes – (You may sit in silent, reflective prayer as the worship leaders recess.)

Postlude The Snow Lay on the Ground Wilbur Held

^{*} Charge and Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME those who are visiting today. We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission and programs; we are happy to share our ministry with you. We'd like to get to know you. Please introduce yourself to a person nearby and be sure to join us downstairs in Carmel Hall for refreshments and conversation after worship! We hope your worship experience is meaningful and you will join with us again. Sign our guest book at the sanctuary entrance (or share your email/contact information in the offering plate for future worship and activities). We invite you to speak with a Pastor if you are interested in membership. A Virtual Fellowship Time is also possible on Zoom. And, restrooms are located down the long hallway just past the Church Office in the Education Building. Welcome!

THE FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY this morning are given in loving memory of Wes Rose by his family.

SPEND SOME TIME WITH CARMEL'S NEW AND GREATLY IMPROVED WEBSITE! Explore the wealth of information at www.presbycarmel.org. Photos of our recent "Candlelight Carol Service" are now up on the Carmel Web! Easily find links for the current livestream worship, past services, the daily lectionary, or to send a prayer request or make a financial donation—and find out the latest on the Carmel Calendar. Clicking on the upper circular church photo will always bring you back to the Home Page.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP GIVING ENVELOPES ARE IN THE FLOYER READY FOR PICK UP! Please pickup your numbered Stewardship Giving Envelopes in the church foyer arranged alphabetically. If you need a yearly Giving/Pledge Card, they may be picked up near the Offering Plate as you enter the sanctuary. Please drop in the plate or return to the Church Office. Additional yearly giving/pledge cards are available in the Church Office. Thank you for your generosity in caring for others through your church family!

CARMEL IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE FOR THE YOUNG MEMBERS of our congregation by offering Nursery Care and Children's Worship (third grade and below) during the Sunday 10:00 am worship service. They are being led by two of our committed and dedicated volunteers, Marleen Heintz for Nursery Care and Melissa MacFarland for Children's Worship. At this time, we request that if you desire nursery care for your child during Sunday worship, please call the Church Office by Friday noon, so that the nursery is staffed. Children's Worship will meet in Carmel Hall for larger spacing and does not require reserving ahead. Children from Grades K-3 leave the Sanctuary after the Children's Message. We welcome our young families, either in person or in virtual worship. Any questions may be addressed to Janet Simon, Christian Education Committee chair; Marleen or Melissa.

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING GROUP STUDY LED BY THE SENIOR PASTOR Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45 am, Fellowship Lounge will take a "pause" during Advent and Christmas and resumes in January. Talk with Pastor Peter about what you would like to take up for study and if you'd like to meet during the week. The group is considering adding a new class time during the week to involve those who are unable to make the Sunday morning class.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SUPPLIES, HEARING DEVICES, LARGE PRINT BIBLES and ORDERS OF SERVICE are available from the Ushers.

WORSHIPING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 – All are requested to wear masks at all times and practice social distancing at your and other's comfort levels during worship and when inside the church facilities

SIGN-UP TO HELP WITH WORSHIP – EACH SUNDAY WE HAVE several spots you can assist. We are not all we can be without you sharing your gifts as a volunteer! Speak with a pastor or sign-up on-line here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904094ca8a62aa6f49-worship

JOIN US EACH SUNDAY IN WORSHIP; CELEBRATE COMMUNION THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH! Live Streaming Worship continues on YouTube, via Zoom on the phone and on Zoom for virtual fellowship following worship for those unable to attend in-person worship due to health comfort levels or travel situations. See below!

Participating in Worship this Morning

Ashley B. Rossi, Associate Pastor Abigail Vander Hart Palmisano, Organist and Director of Music Janet Simon, Worship Leader Lynne Schutt, Greeter , Ushers

Kristin Waldner and Beth Cherry, Shepherds Walt Newman, Chancel Preparation and Emergency Procedure (CPEP) Member Gary Moll and Jay Raulinaitis, Live-Streaming Operators

Welcome to Sunday Morning Worship (Also, live streamed at 10:00 am)

YouTube (Carmel Presbyterian Church Glenside) at

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KnjuJryWjVkrJljIDvsRw

Those without Internet access may phone in via the Zoom phone link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8428511409

and Meeting ID: 842 851 1409

"Virtual Fellowship Time" may be accessed on Zoom only after the service ends.

For those Participating and Facilitating in Worship

By attending in-person worship at Carmel Presbyterian Church you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and variants and voluntarily assume the risk that you and your family may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19. You also acknowledge that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 and its variants may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of yourself and/or others, including, but not limited to, church employees, contractors, volunteers, members, and participants and their families. You agree to assume all the foregoing risks, waive liability against Carmel Presbyterian Church and church employees, contractors, volunteers, members, and participants and their families, and accept sole responsibility for any illness, injury, disability, or death to you or your family, including all claims that may arise resulting from any of these.

Carmel Presbyterian Church

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What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 68

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR LM



All Hail to God's Anointed

ROCKPORT 7.6.7.6 D



In the Darkness Shines His Splendor

To the tune of "Once in Royal David's City" Lyrics by Bernadette Gasslein

1 In the darkness shines the splendor of the Word who took our flesh welcoming, in love's surrender, death's dark shadow at his creche. Bearing every human story Word made flesh reveals his glory.

2 Light of nations, veiled in history, born of woman's flesh and blood, calling to the depths of mystery restless hearts that seek the good. Healing every human story, Word made flesh reveals his glory.

3 Broken bread, sustaining us in sorrow, wine poured out to toast our joy, exodus and new tomorrow, life's full promise to enjoy! Gladdening every human story, Word made flesh reveals his glory.

4 All God's people, sing in jubilation of the birth that sets us free, telling of the revelation:
Jesus, God's epiphany.
Celebrate the human story!
Word made flesh reveals our glory.

581

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



853 We Are Marching in the Light of God



This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.

