

Schaller, Iowa  
December 24, 2022

7:45 P. M.  
Christmas Eve

Rev. Michael Sydnor

**PRELUDE**

Judy Fells, Organist

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

The Franken Family

Reader: Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us; Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus. It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ Candle.

**PEOPLE:** We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ, our hope is fulfilled; our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed.

Reader: Rejoice, a Savior is born.

**PEOPLE:** A savior is born, indeed. Joy to the world!

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Mary, Did You Know?

Pentatonix

**WELCOME**

Elder

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Elder

Elder: Light shines on those who live in darkness,

**People:** for a child is born to us this night.<sup>1</sup>

Elder: Let us worship God!

**\*HYMN**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

#145

**INVOCATION** (Please be seated)

Pastor

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON):**

Elder

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.<sup>2</sup> (Time of silent prayer) Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

#623

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

Old Testament: Isaiah 9:2-7

Elder

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from

<sup>1</sup> Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 199). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

<sup>2</sup> Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 190). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel: Luke 2:1-20**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were



After the hymn is concluded, **PLEASE EXIT THE SANCTUARY IN SILENCE**, carrying your lit candle with you -- taking the light of Christ with you out into the world! Candles may then be extinguished and dropped off in a box located in the narthex area and share greetings and fellowship with those around you.

## *The Lord's Supper*

### The Invitation

**Minister:** Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

**People:** People will come from east and west and from north and south, and sit at the table in the Kingdom of God.

### The Thanksgiving

**Minister:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Minister:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Minister:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

### The Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

### Unison Prayer

O God, who called us from death to life; we give ourselves to you; and with the church through all ages, we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### The Lord's Prayer

### Thanksgiving after the supper

God our help: we thank you for this supper shared in the spirit with your Son Jesus, who makes us new and strong. Who brings us life eternal. We thank you for giving us all good gifts in him, and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you have served us. Amen.

