

Christmas Eve



Thursday Dec. 24, 2020 ~ 5pm

at historic

Upper Tincum Evangelical Lutheran Church

188 Upper Tincum Church Road

Upper Black Eddy, PA 18972

(610) 294-9391

<http://facebook.com/uppertincumlc>

The Rev. John W. Hansen, Pastor

Corey Olver, Director of Music

THE PRELUDE

WELCOME

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who was in the beginning,
who makes a dwelling among us,
who covers us with justice and mercy.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of goodness and lovingkindness,

**C we confess that we have sinned against you
and our neighbors.**

We have turned away from your invitation to new life.

We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden.

**In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,
those we know and those known only to you,**

**for the sake of the one who came to live among us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P Hear the good news of peace and salvation!

God forgives us all our sins,
not through our own work,

but through ✝ Jesus Christ, made known to all people.

With all who come to the manger,

rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN #45 “O, Come, All Ye Faithful”

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal be comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be - glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels;
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num,
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Ten: arr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1781; 9: Frederick Oakley, 1892–1893, nos. 1, 3–4; 11: unknown, ca. 2
 Music: ADJUSTED, arr. John Francis Wade

THE GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all,

C And also with you.

THE CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE

P The light shines in the darkness.

C and the darkness has not overcome it.

P The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C and we have beheld Christ's glory.

P To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

P Glory to God in the highest!

C HYMN OF PRAISE #71 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be - which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Repeat
Glo - ri - a

in ex-cel-sis De-o; glo

ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o,

Text: French canticle by H. F. Berry, *The Crown of Jesus Christ*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French canticle, arr. Edward S. Bates, 1887-1928

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray,
 Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

- ²The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined.
- ³You have multiplied the nation,
 you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,

as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

A Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

P The Holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary

treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P The gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE – Hymn #34 (vs. 5)
“Oh, Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel”

THE CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

THE CHRISTMAS HYMN – “What Child Is This?”

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1857-1898
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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

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

SHARING THE PEACE OF OUR LORD

P/ The peace of the Christ Child be with you always.

C/ And also with you.

(Please share a safe sign of Christ's Peace.)

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

(Please mail whatever you are comfortable giving.)

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A The shepherds sing, "Jesus Christ is born!" Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news, over the hills and everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Heaven and nature sing, "Joy to the world!" Give respite to flocks, fields, and those who tend them. Come near to us in the beauty of nighttime, the shining of the stars, and the hush of a world at rest. May our wonder at your creation rouse our care for all the earth. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A The angels sing, "Peace on earth!" Come quickly to still the strife of this world. Hush the noise of war and violence in places of unrest (*especially*). Inspire leaders of nations to seek lasting peace and sustainable provision for all in their care. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Mary sings melodies of comfort to her newborn child. Bring rest and reassurance to those facing struggles this night. Shelter travelers and those without homes. Console those who lie awake due to pain or anxiety. Heal those who are sick or hurting (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Love sings through the sound of a new baby's cry. Bless new parents and expectant parents. Comfort those who long for children, especially those running out of hope or options. Surround families of every shape and size with your love and care. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A The heavenly chorus sings, "Glory to God in the highest!" We give you thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed your glory in word and deed (*especially*). Let us join them this night in joyful praise around your eternal throne (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray in confidence the words our Lord has taught us:

C 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATION

John 1:1-14

(Candles are lighted as the gospel is read)

THE BLESSING

P Almighty God,

who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,

bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.

C Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN #65 "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

Ruh. *schlaf* *in* *himm - li - scher* *Ruh.*
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
 Music: STELLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C Thanks be to God.

(Candles are extinguished at this time.)

THE POSTLUDE

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*The Staff & Leadership of Upper Tincum
 Lutheran Church wish everyone a joyous Christmas
 & God's richest blessings in the New Year.*





Upper Tinicum Lutheran Church Christmas Decoration & Poinsettia Memorials

December 24, 2020

Poinsettias Given in Memory & in Honor of:

In Memory of Howard Hilbert by Alice Hilbert

In Memory of Samantha Mae Miller by Nanny & Pappy Miller & family

In Memory of Pat Whitman & Shelby Danner by Alice Whitman

Decorations Given in Memory & in Honor of:

In Memory of Paul Benner by Jackie Benner

In Memory of Frank Bowlby by Ida Bowlby

In Memory of Serafina DiGuardia by the DiGuardia family

In Memory of John Price by the DiGuardia family

To the Glory of God by the DiGuardia family

In Memory of Jim Everett by Kathy Everett

In Memory of Clara J. Day by Rev. John Hansen

In Memory of Harriet S. Hansen by Rev. John Hansen

In Memory of Warren A. Hansen by Rev. John Hansen

In Memory of William A. Hansen by Rev. John Hansen

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Houseworth & Bud Harr by Betty Harr

In Memory of David Hess by his wife & family

In Memory of Tom & Joann Marshall by Blair, Diane & Noah Marshall

In Memory of Samantha Mae Miller by Nanny & Pappy Miller & family

In Memory of Julia A. Spiritosanto by Vincent E. Spiritosanto

In Memory of Vincent J. Spiritosanto by Vincent E. Spiritosanto

In Memory of Pat Whitman & Shelby Danner by Alice Whitman

**** Front Door wreaths are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Hess by his family.***

****Electric candles are given to the glory of God by Blair, Diane & Noah Marshall.***