

Christ Church

**Worshipping Christ and equipping God's people to extend His Lordship
down through our generations
and out into the world.**

Covenant Renewal Worship, Lord's Day, December 24, 2017 9:30 AM

Meditation

"There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord."

Isaiah 11:1-2

God Calls Us to Worship

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined. . . . For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." **AMEN**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

See, amid the Winter's Snow

Trinity Hymnal 199

1 See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years.

Refrain:

Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

2 Lo, within a manger lies
he who built the starry skies:
he who, throned in height sublime,
sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain*

3 Say, ye holy shepherds, say -
what's your joyful news today?
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep? *Refrain*

4 "As we watched at dead of night,
lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing, 'Peace on earth,'
told us of the Savior's birth." *Refrain*

5 Sacred infant, all divine,
what a tender love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this! *Refrain*

6 Teach, O teach us, holy child,
by thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble thee,
in thy sweet humility. *Refrain* **AMEN**

Responsive Reading

Luke 2:8-14

Leader: Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Congregation: And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Leader: Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Congregation: "And this will be the sign to you: You will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

Leader: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

Congregation: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" AMEN

Angels We Have Heard on High

Trinity Hymnal 214

1 Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the new-born King. *Refrain*
AMEN

Confession of Sin

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you...”

AMEN *1 Corinthians 6:9-11a*

Silent Confession followed by Corporate Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

Congregation: **Lord, we confess that there is no one righteous, no, not one.
No one understands, no one seeks for God.
We all have turned aside;
together we have become worthless;
no one does good, not even one.
So to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.
O Lord God, in You do we trust.
Make us to know Your ways, O Lord;
teach us Your paths.
Lead us in Your truth, and teach us,
for You are the God of our salvation;
for You we do wait all the day long.
Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love.
Remember not our sins and transgressions;
according to Your steadfast love, remember us,
for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord! AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”
AMEN *Matthew 1:21*

Leader: Our sins are forgiven!

Congregation: Thanks be to God

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Trinity Hymnal 201

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

3 How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel. **AMEN**

The Nicene Creed

Trinity Hymnal, page 846

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;**

who spoke by the prophets;

**And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. AMEN**

Intercessory Prayer

Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. **AMEN**

James 5:16

Leader Prays

Congregation: Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your 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 do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

AMEN

Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

God Consecrates Us with His Word

The Reading of the Scriptures

John 1:1-18

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Tabernacled Among Us
Peter Leithart

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Trinity Hymnal 218

1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth;

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

2 Shepherds in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light. *Refrain*

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star. *Refrain*

4 Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear. *Refrain*

5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
evermore your voices raising
to th'eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

AMEN

God Communes With Us

Elder: God is good!

Congregation: All the time!

Elder: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Let us pray.

Congregation: **Almighty Father, Whose dear Son,
on the night before He suffered,
Did institute the Sacrament of His Body and Blood;
Mercifully grant that we may thankfully receive the
same in remembrance of Him,
Who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of life eternal;
Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
One God, world without end. AMEN**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Once in Royal David's City

Trinity Hymnal 225

1 Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2 He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Savior holy.

3 And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honor and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden
in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.

4 And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

5 Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around. **AMEN**

God Commissions Us

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

AMEN

Titus 2:11-14

Benediction

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Trinity Hymnal 162

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,
and unwearied praises be,
honor, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore! **AMEN**