

Salem Lutheran Church

3825 Norrisville Road, Jarrettsville, MD 21084 ~ 410.692.6803

www.Salemjarrettsville.org

Pastor Betty Lou's Mobile Phone ~ 443.465.6668

DECEMBER 25th, 2021 ~ CHRISTMAS DAY

A very merry Christmas to all who worship the Christ Child on this holy day. Our service this morning is the "Christ Mass," from which we get the word Christmas. It is simply the service of Holy Communion with special emphasis on the Incarnation of Christ: in the manger, in the Word, and in the Bread and Wine.

GATHERING & WELCOME

CHRISTMAS DIALOG:

P. Today the Christ is born! Alleluia!

C. **Today salvation has appeared! Alleluia!**

P. Today on earth choirs of angels are singing!

C. **Today in heaven archangels are rejoicing!**

P. Today the just exult and say,

C. **Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!**

HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW 283 vs. 1&4

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:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2

Music: attr. John Francis Wade

Tune Name: Adeste fideles Public Domain

GREETING

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

And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who sends the word with angels,
who is made flesh among all peoples,
and who breathes peace on all the earth.

Amen.

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Holy God,

we confess our sin before you.

We replace compassion with competition.

We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.

We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.

We have not put on love in harmony with you.

Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.

Swaddle our hearts with your peace,

that all we do, in word or deed,

may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord + In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-5, 14

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the first chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Holy Gospel given to you. **Praise to you, O Christ**

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY

Isn't He

verses 1 & 2

Isn't He beautiful
Beautiful isn't He
Prince of Peace Son of God
Isn't He

Isn't He wonderful
Wonderful isn't He
Counselor Almighty God
Isn't He isn't He isn't He Isn't He

Text & Music: John Wimber
1980 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)
Reported to CCLI SONG #1541

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSIONS

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL BLESSING

Let us pray,

Jesus, we believe you are present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We love You above all things and we desire to receive You into our souls. Since we cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace You as You are already there, and because of You we are united with You in death and in life. Never permit us to be separated from You. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

BLESSING

P. May the God of the angels, who heralded Christ's birth, bring joy to your hearts this day and always.
Amen

P. May the God of love, who gave his only Son to be born for you, fill your life with love and peace.
Amen

P. May Emmanuel, God with us, be with you in all your doings and all your celebrations, until he brings you into his eternal kingdom. **Amen**

P. May almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. **Thanks be to God.**

C: Thanks be to God! Amen!

*******ANNOUNCEMENTS*******

We give thanks to Glenn Deuchler for leading us in music. And thank you, Doris Karoll for preparing the Lord's Table for this day.

Sunday January 2, 2022 – Service Time begins at 10:00am **

Coffee Hour Desserts Sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Thank you for blessing the fellowship table with your special treats!

Our Daily Bread ~ Thank you for providing and caring for the less fortunate and for your generosity. Next delivery date is January 10, 2022.

Mason Dixon Food Pantry ~ Thank you for donating non-perishable food items for folks Sarah Keller takes the items to Mason Dixon at least once a month. The collection bin is located under the coat rack in the Narthex. Thank you, Sarah, for delivering the food items!

Interested in online giving to Salem and her ministries? Check out Salem's website

Want to spread encouragement? Let's send notes / cards of care to:

Sterling Care Riverside

C/O Charles Phoebus

1123 Belcamp Garth ~ Room 219A

Belcamp, MD 21017

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Rhonda Myers, Mary Valis , Denny Blauer, Brenda Jimenez, Family and friends of Larry Phillips, Kathryn Christy, April Moyer, Cari Herrera, David Roche, Layne Bortmes, Tom Ritten, Dominic Cardone, David Storf, Carter's family, The family and friends of Don Smith, Richard Newsome, The family and friends of Raymond McCue, Caitlin Taylor, Darla Lynch, Alcoe Durastanti, Robet Vazquez, Erika Weldon, Paul Foutz, Daisy Lukens, Steve Awalt, Tony Garner, Ed Insel, Jumela Beecher, Lauren, Cathy Preston, Elfriede Kiesling, Lance Graham, Debbie Connor, Judy Newsome, baby Diana, Brent Przychoda, Cathy Marowski, Georgia Coleman, Charlie Phoebus, Austin Phoebus (military), Deana Vanhart, Faith LeBrun, Howard Kramer, James Rickman, Brenda Baker, Donna Glorioso, John Bragg, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Donna Miller, Lisa Barwick, Walt Karoll, Marianna Putnam, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rembert, Betty Burnet, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret Shank, Jim McNicholas, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Joyce Craig, Kattie Hale, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

Contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates to prayer list.

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