

December 24, 2021  
Christmas Eve  
7 p.m.



**Connect with us:**  
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**6770 North High Street, Worthington, OH 43085 · (614) 885-0112**

Gathering

Prelude      Christmas Selections

Traditional

\*Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
Love from the beginning,  
Word made flesh,  
Breath of heaven.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

*(brief silence)*

Merciful God,  
**we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have**

**resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen.**

Dear people of God, hear the good news: Christ the Savior is born! You are loved and forgiven in the name of Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world.

**Amen.**

from sundaysandseasons.com

Hymn 283 Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

The Greeting

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

**And also with you.**

Anthem *Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head*

Manor

\*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

RESPONSIVE LITANY

Advent is a time to proclaim.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a hope that is stronger than any trial.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

CANDLE LIGHTING

Tonight we light all of the candles. The first candle reminds us that Advent is a time to wait upon the Lord with faithful endurance. The second candle reminds us that Advent is a time to watch for God's presence with hopeful expectation. The third candle reminds us that Advent is a time to prepare for the Lord in heart, soul and mind. The fourth candle reminds us that the One we wait for, and prepare for is Jesus Christ, who is Emmanuel, meaning

God with us. Tonight we light the last candle, the Christ candle. This candle reminds us that we are to proclaim the message of Christmas by celebrating what Christ has done, and by sharing it with others. As the light from each candle fills this room, so may the Light of Christ fill our world!

Sung response "We Wait in Hope"

#### CLOSING PRAYER

God in heaven, we thank you for guiding us through our Advent journey. Through waiting, watching, preparing, and praising, we are now ready to proclaim. Help us receive the glory of Christmas, as we celebrate and rejoice that you have come to us through the gift of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer.

**Amen.**

#### \*Prayer of the Day

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.

**Amen.**

Anthem      *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*      Helvey

#### Readings

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You 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. <sup>4</sup>For 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. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warrior and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For 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. <sup>7</sup>His 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 for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## New Testament Reading Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He 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.

\*Hymn 289 Angels We Have Heard on High

## Gospel Luke 2:1-20

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph 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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And 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. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When 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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Pastor Bonnie Gerber

\*Hymn 296 What Child Is This

\*The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith together through the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

This night the eternal Word of God is born in us. We pray for Christ's light of life to take flesh in the church, the creation, and all people of God.

*(brief silence)*

We bring to the manger our longing for the visible unity of the church of Jesus Christ, that undivided it proclaims the one whose birth brings good news of glad tidings to all people. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We bring to the manger hope for the well-being of creation, that every valley be exalted and every rough place be made plain so that every living thing may flourish. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We bring to the manger a vision of the reign of the Prince of Peace, that the nations, tribes, and peoples of this world will see and cherish in each other the very image of Christ, whose scepter is mercy and whose judgment is love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring to the manger concern for those who have no place to lay their heads this night and for those who dwell in the shadow of loneliness, despair, illness, or death. We come begging that the child for whom there was no room will open the doors of our hearts to the needs of our neighbors and ourselves. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring to the manger the hopes and dreams of all the year, that with Mary and Joseph, angels and archangels, saints and martyrs, loved ones of every time and every place, our prayers and praises join in a common song uniting heaven and earth in a single peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your outstretched arms, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Jesus Christ, the light and life of the world.  
**Amen.**

The Meal

Offering *Riu, Riu, Chiu*

Spevacek

Offering Response Song In the Bleak Midwinter

\*Prayer

Let us pray. God with us:

**you came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Preface  
*(it is indeed right . . . and join their unending hymn:)*

Sung response “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets’ hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary’s openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.  
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
One God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

\*The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

**You are invited to receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. All are welcome. We believe that Holy Communion is a sacrament, a means by which God's grace and forgiveness are generously shared with each of us. Please follow the directions of the ushers. Communion is by intinction – please take the wafer and dip it into the cup. We offer a divided chalice. You may choose the red side which is wine or the clear/orange side which is grape juice. We also offer a gluten-free station. Please ask your bread server for the gluten-free station. Come, for the feast is prepared.**

The Communion

Sung response "Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;"

Hymns

277 Away in a Manger  
272 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming  
279 O Little Town of Bethlehem  
300 The First Noel  
282 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## Prayer

Let us pray. On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

\*Hymn 281 Silent Night, Holy Night!

## Conclusion of the Service

**And now, let us conclude with the Blessing and Dismissal.**

### \*Blessing

May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life.

**Amen.**

May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.

**Amen.**

May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### \*Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God!**

\*Hymn 267 Joy to the World

Postlude *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Hustad

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The altar flowers are given by in by Don and Sue Schregardus in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

**A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL**  
from All Saints' staff:

*Pastor Bonnie Gerber, Pastor Scott Nellis, Pastor Jeff Wise,  
Arlene Belter, Gloria Bock, Lisa Brooks,  
Suzy Eakin, Alex Ford, Tom Gerke,  
Lauren Grangaard, Cathy Martin, Alex Mills,  
Mary Nellis, Rusty Oates and Jen Shively*



**Come Worship with Us**

**Sunday, December 26**

10 a.m., Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary