
**Order of Worship
2017**

December 17,

Reflection

To know that God knows everything about me and yet loves me is indeed my ultimate consolation.

-RC Sproul

Prelude

As worship begins, please silence your electronic devices.

Call To Worship

Psalm

126

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us!

People: And we are filled with joy!

Leader: Our God has turned our weeping into singing,
our tears into songs of joy!

People: O Messiah, come anew in our hearts this day, and remain in us forever!

Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.

Sing, choirs of angels;
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest; (Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Late in flesh appearing; (Refrain)

Prayer of Adoration

All glory to you, great God, for the gift of your Son, light in darkness and hope of the world, whom you sent to save us. With singing angels let us praise your name and tell the earth his story, that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down, acknowledging your love through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Bethlehem Candle

Isaiah 61:1-4

Luke 1:46-55

Reader: We light the third candle of Advent, the Shepherds' Candle. We light these candles to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the world. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

All: Thanks be to God!

Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God whose light fills all the earth
Whose love we see in Jesus' birth
Whose Spirit forms one family
Whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, we are guilty, but pardoned, lost, but saved, wandering but found, sinning, but cleansed. Grant us to hear your voice assuring us: that by your stripes we are healed, that you were bruised for our iniquities, that you have been made sin for us that we might be righteous in you, that our grievous sins, our manifold sins, are all forgiven, buried in the ocean of your concealing blood. Amen.

Private Confession

Song

Away in a

Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle, till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Words of Pardon and Comfort

Matthew

1:21

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him
the name Jesus, because he will save his people from
their sins.

Song

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say

Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay-
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel! Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there, in His presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. (Refrain)

*(Children through Kindergarten are dismissed for
Children's Church; they will return for Communion.)*

Prayer of Intercession (Concluded by 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is

**the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.**

High Desert Highlights

See Announcements on page 13

Offertory

Scripture

Galatians

4:21-31

21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. 23 But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. 24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!

For the children of the desolate one will be more
than those of the one who has a husband.”

28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as at that time he who was born

according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." 31 So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

Sermon:
Dan Rose

Rev.

"Whose Children Are We?"

Song:
Darkness

Praise the One Who Breaks the

Praise the one who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light.

Praise the one who frees the prisoners,
turning blindness into sight.

Praise the one who preached the Gospel,
healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children
with a strong yet gentle word.

Praise the one who drove out demons
with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the one who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water,
quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory,
praise the One who makes us one.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, the Lord's Supper (also called Communion or The Eucharist, which means 'thanksgiving') is a time to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by Him as they eat the bread and drink the elements. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, are at peace with their fellow neighbor, and seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ, are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer (see Prayers on page 12)

and to consider more deeply your relationship to Jesus Christ. We also ask that children who have not yet publicly professed their faith in Christ refrain from partaking until doing so. Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are offered in each serving tray.

Words of Institution

Memorial Acclamation

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

Minister: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Song

Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods,

Rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, Jesus is the center point of history, and his presence is our new beginning. Center our lives on your lavish grace that not only saves but renews us to be like Jesus. May our godly living be a fitting testimony of thanksgiving that draws others to the joyful reign of Christ the King. Amen.

Song

Angels We Have Heard on High

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.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song. (Refrain)

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore, on bended knee,
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

See within a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth.
Mary, Joseph lend your aid;
With us sing our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

Benediction

Postlude

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Prayers

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin: Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment: Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Announcements

We will gather for worship next Sunday at 10 am here at DRMS. Pastor Dan will preach on a Christmas theme.

Please consider HDPC in your year-end giving! Contributions must be postmarked no later than December 31 to be included in 2017 giving. See Bob Clark if you have questions.

