



Titusville Presbyterian Church

48 River Drive
Titusville, NJ 08560
609-737-1385

December 22nd, 2024, Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Please stand if able

***Call to Worship** (Luke 1:68-72)

Leader: Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people,

People: And has raised up a Horn of Salvation for us in the house of David His servant.

Leader: As He spoke by the mouth of the holy prophets, who have been since the world began,

People: That we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us,

All: To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember His holy covenant.

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Scripture: Psalm 95:1

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

The Lighting of the Fourth Candle

We light the CANDLE OF JOY for the happiness that is ours because the promised Messiah is coming into the world and into our hearts. With your help we will spread that joy to all the world.

Prayer (in unison)

O God of Grace and Glory, we rejoice in the certainty of your gift of salvation through our Messiah, Jesus Christ. Fill us more and more with your Holy Spirit so that we can bear witness to the Good News and share the joy with all we meet.

285 O Holy Night!

The Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God. Luke 1:35

Introduction

the stars are brightly
of faith serene - ly
one an -

- > 1. O ho - ly night!
- > 2. Led by the light
- > 3. Tru - ly He taught us to love

shin - ing; It is the night of the dear Sav - ior's birth.
beam - ing; With glow - ing hearts by His cra - dle we stand.
oth - er; His law is love and His gos - pel is peace.

Long lay the world in sin and er - ror pin - ing, Till He ap -
So led by light of a star sweet - ly gleam - ing, Here came the
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our broth - er, And in His

peared and the soul felt its worth.
Wise Men from O - ri - ent land.
name all op - pres - sion shall cease.

A thrill of hope - the
The King of kings lay
Sweet hymns of joy in

TEXT: John S. Dwight
MUSIC: A. J. L. A. J.

CANTIQUE DE NOËL
Traduction: M. M. M.

BIRTH

wea - ry world re - joic - es, For yon - der breaks a new and glo - rious morn!
thus in low - ly man - ger, In all our tri - als born to be our Friend.
grate - ful cho - rus raise we; Let all with - in us praise His ho - ly name.

Fall on your knees! O hear the an - gel voic - es! O night
He knows our need - to our weak - ness is no strang - er. Be - hold
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name for - ev - er! His pow'r

di - vine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O
your King, be - fore Him low - ly bend! Be - hold your
and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim! His pow'r and

ho - ly night, O night di - vine!
King, be - fore Him low - ly bend!
glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim!

Optional extended or choral ending

His pow'r and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim!

The end of NIGHT OF MIRACLES - A Worship Sequence

Please be seated.

Call to Confession (1 Timothy 3:15-16)

I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. ¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

God was manifested in the flesh,
Justified in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Preached among the Gentiles,
Believed on in the world,
Received up in glory.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful Lord of All, we, who have come out of darkness, have seen the Light of the World at work in our lives. Forgive us for allowing the flame to only flicker. Light the flame of revival in our hearts! Take away the dross of sin, bringing holiness within. In Jesus Name, we pray. Amen!

[Silent confession]

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Luke 1:46-55)

And Mary said:

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

⁴⁸ For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant;
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

⁴⁹ For He who is mighty has done great things for me,
And holy is His name.

⁵⁰ And His mercy is on those who fear Him
From generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with His arm;
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

⁵² He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
And exalted the lowly.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things,
And the rich He has sent away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped His servant Israel,
In remembrance of His mercy,

⁵⁵ As He spoke to our fathers,
To Abraham and to his seed forever.”

***Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
– world without end.**

Amen, amen.

***Prayer for Illumination**

God of the Glory, by Your grace we have been transformed in mind and heart. We now have ears to hear, minds to understand, and hearts to embrace the truth of Christmas, that has changed the world and given us the joy of Your salvation! In Christ's name we praise You, Amen!

Old Testament Lesson (Job 19:23-27)

“Oh, that my words were written!

Oh, that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴ That they were engraved on a rock

With an iron pen and lead, forever!

²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives,

And He shall stand at last on the earth;

²⁶ And after my skin is destroyed, this I know,

That in my flesh I shall see God,

²⁷ Whom I shall see for myself,

And my eyes shall behold, and not another.

How my heart yearns within me!

New Testament Lesson (Luke 2:1-15)

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. ⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Prayer for the Children

Dear Father, our children seem to learn more and more about the true message of Christmas. May this Christmas be special to them. May they have the faith, hope, love and joy that the message brings to all of us. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen!

Sermon: "Joy During the Darkest Days"

280 One Small Child

She gave birth to a male Child, who will rule all the nations. Revelation 12:5

Unison

1. One small Child in a land of a thou-sand, One small dream of a
 2. One king bring-ing his gold and rich-es, One King rul-ing an
 3. One small light from the flame of a can-dle, One small light from a
 4. One small Child in a land of a thou-sand, One small dream in a

Sav-ior to - night, One small hand reach-ing out to the star - light,
 ar - my of might, One king kneel - ing with in - cense and can-dle light,
 cit - y of might, One small light from the stars in the end-less night,
 peo-ple of might, One small hand reach-ing out to the star - light,

One small cit - y of life. O!
 One King bring-ing us life. O!
 One small light from a face. O!
 One small Sav - ior of life. O!

After Fine - Optional segue to "What Child Is This?" No transition is needed.

2. See Him ly - ing a cra - dle be - neath Him; See Him smil - ing in the stall.
 3. See the shep - herds kneel - ing be - fore Him; See the kings on bend - ed knee.

BIRTH

See His moth - er prais - ing His Fa - ther; See His ti - ny eye - lids fall.
 See His moth - er prais - ing His Fa - ther; See the Bless - ed In - fant sleep.

D.S. al Fine

***Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Announcements

Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer

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

Offering

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen!

Dedication

258 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

When they had seen Him, they spread the word about this Child. Luke 2:17

Refrain
Unison

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

Go, tell it on the moun-tain That Je-sus Christ is born!

> 1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si-lent flocks by night,
(2. The) shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo! a-bove the earth
> (3. Down) in a low-ly man-ger The hum-ble Christ was born,

Be-hold! thro'-out the heav-ens There shone a ho-ly light.
Rang out the an-gel cho-rus That hailed our Sav-ior's birth.
And brought us God's sal-va-tion That bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Refrain
Unison

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

Go, tell it on the moun-tain That Je-sus Christ is born! 2. The born!
> 3. Down born!

*Benediction

Announcements

- Immediately following worship join us in the Heritage Room for refreshments and fellowship.
- **Christmas Eve Service at 6pm**, Join us for a candlelight service as we celebrate Jesus' birth.
- **River Church Potluck Luncheon, Sunday, 1/12/25, 1pm. This event will be held at Titusville Presbyterian.** Please join our friends from Kirkpatrick, Mt. Airy, Lambertville and Stockton churches as we join together for fellowship and a meal. In addition to the potluck, we will be collecting monetary donations or Walmart gift cards to help those in need. Bring a favorite dish to share. To help with seating planning, RSVP to office@titusvillechurch.org letting us know how many will be attending and what you will be bringing to the potluck. See flier in the narthex.
- Collecting Non-perishable food items. We continue to collect food for two local families in need. Please leave your donations in the narthex. If you would prefer, you may give a monetary donation and Barbara Matlack will purchase Shop-Rite gift cards for the families.
- Children's Sunday School. The children will leave worship right after the Children's Message for their lesson. **Sunday School will not be held next Sunday, 12/29. It will resume on Sunday, 1/5.**
- We have a prayer team that will pray for your joys, celebrations, and concerns. If you would like prayer, please send an email to bmatlack@titusvillechurch.org and a prayer request will go right out. Also, if you would like to pray for those on our prayer list, please let Barbara Matlack know. She will add you to the prayer team email list.

Deacons

Class of 2024

- Andrew Niederer

Class of 2025

- Gail Butterfoss
- Judy Niederer

Class of 2026

- Joan Niederer
- Marianne Strickhart

Session

Class of 2024

- Patti Manz
- Barbara Matlack
- Randy Niederer

Class of 2025

- No members

Class of 2026

- Mark Niederer
- Kristine Schmidt

Ministers: All members of Titusville Church
Pastor: Rev. Stephan Nash
Worship Assistant: Randy Niederer
Accompanist: Kati Kertesz

The Rev. Dr. R. William Shaub, *Pastor Emeritus*
Barbara Matlack, *Office Administrator*

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



The Christmas Poinsettias were given to the glory of God and donated by:

Jim and Ruth Burkley and
Jean and Phil Hartman

Rich and Gail Butterfoss

Chris and Lori Drake

Bill and Evelyn Hart

The Glenn Hart Family

Pat Holliday

Chris, Patti, Christopher & Maria Manz

Bill and Barbara Matlack

Mark, Joan, Andrew & Robbie Niederer

Judy Niederer

Randy and Debbie Niederer

Glenn and Paige Paul

Craig and Lynn Reed

Bill and Lettie Ritner

Bob and Marianne Strickhart

Bud Willey

In Loving Memory of

Robert and Mildred Kimball

In Loving Memory of Loved Ones

In Loving Memory of Loved Ones

In Loving Memory of Loved Ones

In Loving Memory of Loved Ones

In Loving Memory of Ron Holliday

To the Glory of God and in gratitude for our church family

In Loving Memory of Roger and Isabel Matlack and

Mike and JoAnne Slobiski

In Loving Memory of Floyd and Sylvia Niederer and

Lester and Dolly Annechini

In Loving Memory of Loved Ones

In Loving Memory of the Herb and Marion Niederer and

Walter and Elma Shellenberger

In Loving Memory of Miriam Paul

In Loving Memory of Family and Friends

In Loving Memory of Loved Ones

In Loving Memory of Loved Ones

In Loving Memory of Joan and Jane

