

Reflection

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” – Luke 2:13-14

“What then would be our obstinacy, if we refused to join with the choir of angels, in singing the praises of our salvation, which is in Christ? Hence we infer, how abominable in the sight of God must unbelief be, which disturbs this delightful harmony between heaven and earth.” – John Calvin

Musical Reflection

Gloria in excelsis Deo (sung by musicians)

Music by Antonio Vivaldi

Welcome

Rev. Steve Light

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Opening Carol

Joy to the World! The Lord is Come #195

Invocation

Responsive Reading

from Genesis 1, 3

Minister (1:31): And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

People (3:1): Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”

Minister (3:6): So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

People (3:7): Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin cloths.

All (3:14-15): The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Scripture Reading

Revelation 12:1-8

Chad & Holly McCollough

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ²She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. ⁴His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. ⁵She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, ⁶and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.

⁷Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.

Carol

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen #211

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing #203

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

David & Huldah Mathis

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Holy Trinity Choir

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death’s dark shadows put to flight
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee (shall come to thee)
O Israel (O Israel)

O come, O come Emmanuel (O come, O come Emmanuel)
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel.

Scripture Reading

Hosea 11:1-2; Jeremiah 31:15-20

Emery Ellinger, IV

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

²The more they were called,
the more they went away;
they kept sacrificing to the Baals
and burning offerings to idols.

Thus says the Lord:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.”

¹⁶Thus says the Lord:

“Keep your voice from weeping,
and your eyes from tears,
for there is a reward for your work,
declares the Lord,
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

¹⁷There is hope for your future,
declares the Lord,
and your children shall come back to their own country.

¹⁸I have heard Ephraim grieving,
‘You have disciplined me, and I was disciplined,
like an untrained calf;

bring me back that I may be restored,
for you are the Lord my God.

¹⁹For after I had turned away, I relented,
and after I was instructed, I struck my thigh;

I was ashamed, and I was confounded,
because I bore the disgrace of my youth.’

²⁰Is Ephraim my dear son?

Is he my darling child?

For as often as I speak against him,
I do remember him still.

Therefore my heart yearns for him;
I will surely have mercy on him,
declares the Lord.

Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 36-38

Q. 36 What benefit do you receive from the holy conception and birth of Christ?

A. He is our Mediator, and with his innocence and perfect holiness covers, in the sight of God, my sin, in which I was conceived and born.

Q. 37 What do you confess when you say that he suffered?

A. During all the time he lived on earth, but especially at the end, Christ bore in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race. Thus, by his suffering, as the only atoning sacrifice, he has redeemed our body and soul from everlasting damnation, and obtained for us the grace of God, righteousness, and eternal life.

Q. 38 Why did he suffer under Pontius Pilate as judge?

A. Though innocent, Christ was condemned by an earthly judge, and so he freed us from the severe judgment of God that was to fall on us.

Carol

What Child is This #213

Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 39-40

Q. 39 Does it have a special meaning that Christ was crucified and did not die in a different way?

A. Yes. Thereby I am assured that he took upon himself the curse which lay on me, for a crucified one was cursed by God.

Q. 40 Why was it necessary for Christ to humble himself even unto death?

A. Because of the justice and truth of God satisfaction for our sins could be made in no other way than by the death of the Son of God.

Carol

Who Is This, So Weak and Helpless #239

The Message

Rev. Dustyn Eudaly, Senior Minister

Matthew 2:13-23 — He Was Despised and We Esteemed Him Not

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

¹⁹ But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” ²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³ And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Closing Carol

Silent Night! Holy Night #210

Benediction

All hymns and songs used with permission from CCLI#1527232
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WELCOME

HOLY TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our theological standards are the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, all of which are subordinate to our only ultimate rule of faith and practice, God’s Word (the Old and New Testament Scriptures).

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. We invite you to join us for refreshments in the courtyard immediately following the morning worship service.

Let us know how we may pray for you. Fill out a prayer request card, found in the pews, and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. The officers of the church will confidentially pray for these requests.

We welcome the participation of children in our worship service. This is their time to hear from God’s Word and praise him. Childcare is also available downstairs:

- Age 0-3: childcare available during the entire service (bottom floor)
- Pre-K-K5 Grade: dismissed to the nursery before the sermon

MEETING TIMES

Sundays: 9:15 am.....Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 am.....Morning Worship Service
 6:00 pmEvening Worship and Prayer, Covenant
 Kids class, High School & Middle School studies

Nursery and childcare are provide for all above Sunday activities

Small Groups meet at various times for prayer and fellowship in members’ homes. See our website for details, htpctampa.org.

Thursdays @ 5:30 pm. Neighborhood Outreach Dinner. We prepare and serve a meal for those in need from the community. More details on website.

MINISTERS

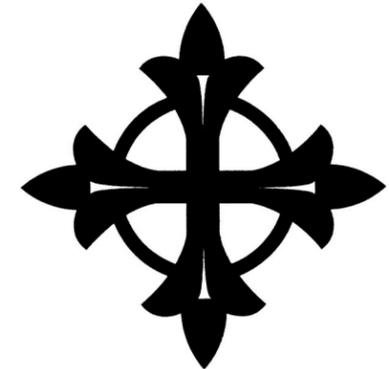
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**HOLY
 TRINITY
 PRESBYTERIAN
 CHURCH**

**Christmas Eve Service
 December 24, 2021**

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