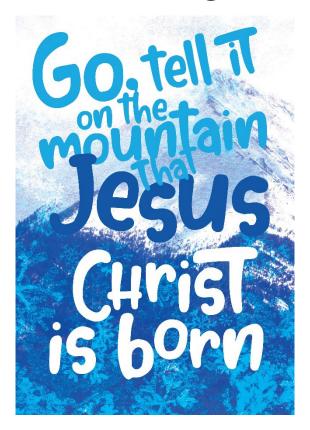
Christmas Day December 25, 2023



4200 Old Warren Road
Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71603
Phone - (870) 534-4316
E-mail - trinityowr@gmail.com
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www.facebook.com/trinityowr
Bible Class/Sunday School 9:30
Sunday Worship Service 10:45

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD-CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Whether your family exchanges Christmas gifts on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day (or at all), Christians gather here to celebrate, receive, and unwrap the perfect Gift, that is, Jesus Christ Himself. The wrapping paper in our homes temporarily covers a gift and is soon thrown away, but Jesus comes to us this day by His Means of Grace to give to us infinite things we can't find anywhere else—the love of His life, the forgiveness of sins, and the salvation of our souls. We rejoice in the gift of the Child wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in the manger, knowing the great gifts the Lord comes to bring for us and for the whole world through the Savior given and born for us.

№ PREPARATION №



INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the

■ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *John 1:1, 4-5, 9; Isaiah 9:6; 1 John 1:5-7*

Pastor: In the beginning was the Word,

People: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Pastor: In Him was life,

People: and the life was the light of men.

Pastor: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

People: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Pastor: To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

People: and the government shall be upon His shoulder,

Pastor: and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

People: Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Pastor: And so this is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is

light,

People: and in Him is no darkness at all.

Pastor: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not

practice the truth.

People: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus, the Word made flesh, You dwell among us, but how can we continually abide

in Your dwelling?

People: For we are sinful and unclean; we have sinned against You in thought, word, and

deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly december Your present and eternal purishment.

deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

Pastor: For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

People: Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in

Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given the gracious gift of His Son to be born into this

the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

₩ WORD ₩

INTROIT Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

People: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, |

Prince of Peace.

Pastor: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

People: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made

known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Pastor: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

People: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God. Make a joyful noise to

the Lord, all the earth;

Pastor: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,

is now and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

People: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father.

Prince of Peace.



SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You make this day to shine with the brightness of the true light.

People: Grant that as we know the mysteries of that light on earth wrapped in infinite love, we

may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven;

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You

and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 52:7-10* ("All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.")

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Hebrews 1:1-6* (The Son is the radiance of the glory of God.)

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:1-14* (The Word became flesh.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.



SERMON John 1:1-14 "Beginnings"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven & earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, our Lord Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, & came the First Christmas, long foretold by prophets, humbly born in a stable in Bethlehem, announced by angels, adored by shepherds, honored by wisemen, just as the Bible, God's Word that has no mistakes, recorded for us; 100% true God from eternity, 100% true man in history; yet without mixing the two natures;

He came to live a perfect life and take my place under the Law, to be born of a Virgin, live in humility, and proclaim God's Word, to truly suffer God's wrath as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, to redeem me from the power of the devil with His life's blood, to destroy the power of sin and death by His death on the Cross, to rise again on Easter, that I might also rise to new life, and to Ascend to the right hand of the Father; from there He shall Return visibly and in glory on the 2nd Christmas to judge all people.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, Who called me to believe in Jesus, He works in Word and Sacraments to daily strengthen my faith, even as He continually calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church of all time, and keeps it with Christ Jesus in the one true faith; I believe that at Jesus' Return, He will raise up me and all the dead, and He will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. Amen



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (Prayers of Song and Spoken Petition)

People: O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel! [St. 4: LSB 361]

Pastor: Father, on this day we recall how great is Your infinite love for us, sending Your Son

into our world wrapped in our flesh as a tiny child to forgive our sins.

People: Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.

People: 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 take us to heaven to live with Thee there. [St. 3: LSB 364]

Pastor: Jesus, on this day we recall how great is Your infinite love for us. You gave up

heaven to live on earth as one of us, and one with us, to forgive our sin.

People: Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.

People: Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,

Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled, A quiet chamber set apart

For You to dwell within my heart. [St. 13: LSB 358]

Pastor: Holy Spirit, on this day we recall how great is Your infinite love for us, gathering us

together through the waters of Baptism and nourishing our faith through the Word

and the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sin.

People: Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift given, received in faith, and kept unto life

eternal. Amen.

Additional petitions may be added.

SACRAMENT A

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [Colossians 3:1]

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [Psalm 136]

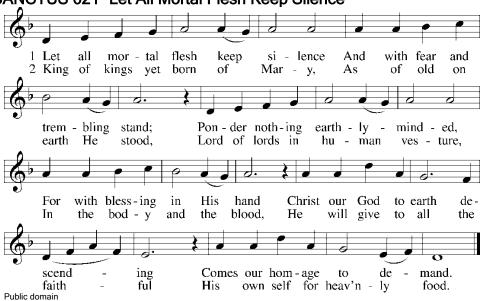
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor:

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS 621 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor:

Blessed are You, Lord our God, for You have had mercy on us and entered human history wrapped up in flesh through the gracious gift of Your Son, Jesus, that we with joy receive Your infinite gifts and by faith enter Your eternal kingdom. Christ fulfilled all prophecy and was born of a virgin so that He might live a perfect and blameless life, die on a cross, rise from the dead, and thereby give us eternal life. We give thanks for the assurance of heaven He won for us. Grant us now that we may faithfully receive Him as the gift for us still wrapped in, with, and under bread and wine, together with the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. To You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all praise and glory now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25
Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My № body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My

₱ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

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PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until

He comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Revelation 22:20

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat

and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in

Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER (TUNE 366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear)



Our Father You in heaven live, so we adore Your name, Your reign into our heart's now give, what You wish done, the same Oh, give us what we need this day; erase our every wrong As, willingly, we set those free who've lived in sin so long

Take far from us the tempting thing, all evil put away; the land o'er which You rule as King has power that's here to stay! Your glory is forever nigh, Your glory wins the day! Our Father, You in heaven live, but too You're here always!

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

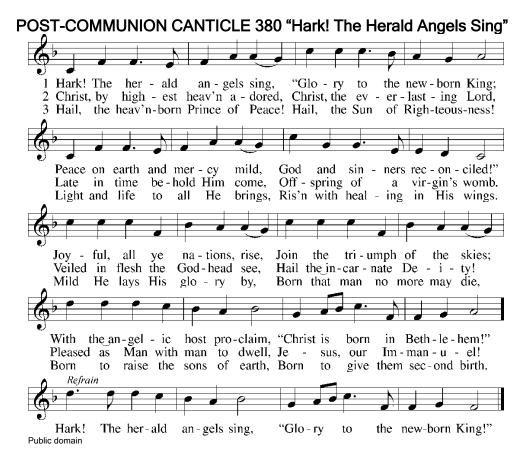
People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI 621 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS





POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

> We give thanks to You, almighty God, that as You have given the greatest gift in Christ our Savior, the Word made flesh, You still come to us in Your Word and Sacrament through this salutary gift. We implore You that of Your infinite love. mercy, and forgiveness. You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You, that we would share the gifts of grace and good news in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

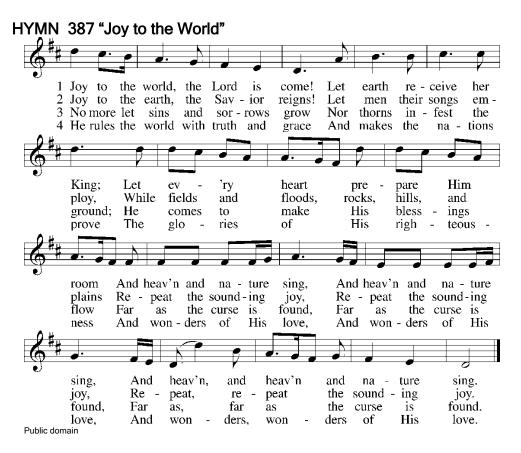
BENEDICTION

Christmas peace and joy through God's infinite love given in Christ, His only-Pastor:

begotten Son, be yours; and the blessing of God Almighty–Father, № Son, and Holy

Spirit—be and abide with you forever.

People: Amen.



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POINSETTIAS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY

Sharon Calabretta — "In memory of Loved ones"

Waymond & Kaye Meins — "Unto Us A Child is Born"

Lura Campbell — "To Bless all of God's People"

Pastor & Donna Marshall — "In Memory of Loved Ones"

Lynne Russell — "In Memory of Claudette Russell,

Terry Russell

Jim Russell"

Dallas Cossey & Charlene Parker Grant –

"In Memory of Margaret Cossey

Dallas Cossey & Charlene Parker Grant – "In memory of Nadiene Moore Parker & Charlie E. Parker Jr."

Bill & Karen Witt - "For a Blessed Christmas"

J.P. & Phyllis Dunger

"In Memory of our parents

Albert & Josephine Dunger

Virginia & Gilbert Bruhl"

John & Margaret Alexander— "Thankfulness for Family"

Don Puddephatt— "In Memory of Susan Puddephatt

Herman & Mary Schmid,

Russell & Sue Leibenguth

Jimmy & Dorothy Herrod—"In memory of Loved Ones"

Joyce Anne Green "Christmas/Jesus' Birth"

Steve & Julie Shorts—"In thanks to God for blessings received"