

# FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

December 26, 2021

9:30 A.M.

45 Worthington Mill  
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**WELCOME VISITORS**

**DISCOVER GOD'S ABUNDANT GRACE AND LOVE**

*We extend a cordial welcome to all who worship with us today. We give thanks that you are here with us. Please sign our guest book and come back and worship with us again.*

## A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

ITEMS IN THIS FONT ARE TITLES  
Items in this font are said by the worship leaders.  
**Items in this font are said by everyone.**  
*Items in this font are non-spoken instructions.*

Prelude (*a time for silent meditation*)

Greetings and Announcements

CALL TO WORSHIP: (*please stand if able*)

Glory to God in the highest!

**And hope to every discouraged heart.**

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels,  
**and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying in a manger.**

Therefore let us read and mark in holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God,  
**from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child.**

OPENING HYMN “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” LBW #50

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. . . Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**  
(*please be seated*)

LESSON I

Genesis 3:8-15 - (*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*)

<sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup> And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup> He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup> 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.  
<sup>15</sup> 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.”

Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*please stand if able*)

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all their righteous offspring:  
**You made the heavens and the earth with all their vast array.**

All things quake with fear at your presence; they tremble because of your power.  
**But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.**

O Lord, you are full of compassion, long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.  
**You hold back your hand; you do not punish as we deserve.**

In your great goodness, Lord, you have promised forgiveness to sinners that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

**And now, O lord, I bend the knee of my heart, and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.**

I have sinned, O Lord, and I know my wickedness only too well.  
**Therefore I make this prayer to you: Forgive me, Lord.**

Do not let me perish in my sin, nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.  
**For your loving kindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior.**

We are not saved by anything we have done, but by your mercy poured out on us richly. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

**All the powers of heaven sing your praises, and your forgiveness is good news of great joy! Amen.**

HYMN “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

LBW # 55

*Remarks – please be seated*

LESSON II

Genesis 22:1-3, 15-18 - (*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*)

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup> He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup> So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

<sup>15</sup> And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup> and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of

heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies,<sup>18</sup> and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### THE OFFERING

Let us with gladness present the offerings of our life and labor to the Lord. *(Please leave your offering in the basket at the entrance of the Sanctuary at the end of the service.)*

#### OFFERTORY

LBW #82 v.1, 3

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

*Remarks*

#### LESSON III

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 - *(Isaiah foretells of the coming of the Saviour)*

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shone.  
<sup>6</sup>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.  
<sup>7</sup>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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE *(nods, waves, “air hugs” to each other only)*

The peace of the Lord be with you all

**And also with you.**

Carol “Emmanuel” (2X)

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel.  
His name is called Emmanuel  
God is with us, revealed in us,  
His name is called Emmanuel**

*Remarks (please be seated)*

#### LESSON IV

Isaiah 11:1-2, Micah 5:2-4 - *(Foretelling of Jesus from Jesse’s line and the glory of Bethlehem)*

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.



<sup>2</sup> And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has given birth;  
then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.

Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Please stand if able*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"                      see page 15

*Remarks (please be seated)*

LESSON V

Luke 1:26-35, 38 - (*The birth of Jesus is foretold by the Angel Gabriel*)

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Please stand if able*)

(*Each petition ends with . . . Merciful God, The congregation responds: receive our prayer.*)

HYMN “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” WHM #136 vs. 1,2

*Remarks (please be seated)*

LESSON VI

Luke 2:1-16 - (*Jesus is born in Bethlehem & worshipped by shepherds*)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.<sup>2</sup> This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria.<sup>3</sup> And all went to be registered, each to his own town.<sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,<sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.<sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.<sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.<sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.<sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.<sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.<sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*Please stand if able*)

**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.**

HYMN “The First Noel” LBW # 56 vs. 1,2

*Remarks (Please be seated)*

LESSON VII

Matthew 2:1-12 (*The visit of the Magi*)<sup>2</sup>

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,<sup>2</sup> saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”<sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;<sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.<sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.””

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” <sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

### BLESSING

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the everlasting peace of Jesus who is Savior, Christ and Lord. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you now and forever.

**Amen**

HYMN “The First Noel”

LBW # 56 vs. 3,4

*Remarks*

### LESSON VIII

John 1:1-14 (*The Word becomes Flesh*)

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

### BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

**Amen.**

HYMN “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

LBW #70

### DISMISSAL

Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere!

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Worship Leader

Deacon Gail Oines

Music Director

Mike Dettra

Worship Assistants

John Flint, Jeanne Gryska

## **ALTAR FLOWERS AND MISSION SUPPORT SIGNUPS**

The Altar Flower and Mission Support Charts for 2022 are on the table in the narthex. One bouquet of flowers is \$25 and one week of mission support is \$25. Please sign up early and often!

## **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

We need committees or individuals to sign up to provide refreshments after the late service. The 2022 sign-up sheet is on the fellowship table. Advent supplies hot beverages (i.e. coffee & tea) and all paper products.

## **CHRISTMAS I**

We continue our celebration of the season of Christmas this day. We also wish everyone a Blessed New Year. May God prosper and bless each of you in this coming year.

## **OFFICE HOURS DURING DECEMBER**

Pastor Matt will be out of the office from Sunday, December 25, returning Tuesday, January 4. Fran Zanis (Admin. Asst.) will be out of the office starting Thursday, December 16 until Wednesday, January 5. The phone messages will be checked on a regular basis.

Pastor Nathan Krause from Redeemer Lutheran Church, Jamison will be providing emergency pastoral coverage for Pastor Matt while he is on vacation from the 26th of December through the 3rd of January. His contact number is 267-884-1195.

## **ANNUAL REPORTS DUE**

Annual Reports are submitted by each church committee and group to summarize their accomplishments in the past year. They are due by **Sunday, January 23** For each report, please prepare a "word document" (if possible or check with Fran) and email it to: [office@adventrichboro.org](mailto:office@adventrichboro.org). Thank you.

## **STITCH CLUB ITEMS AVAILABLE**

If you would need anything throughout the year from the Stitch Club for babies or the elderly i.e. blankets, etc., please contact Hanna McCollum at 215-962-9032 or Jeff Jobses at 215-355- 4149. They can have them available on Saturdays or Sundays. **Stitch club meets Saturday morning, all are welcome to join.**

## **DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION**

If you have food for the Warminster Food Pantry that you or your friends would like to donate and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. A list the pantry's most needed items is in the narthex. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

# **THIS WEEK AT ADVENT**

## **FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26**

9:30 a.m. Traditional Lessons and Carols

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time – Congregational Life

## **MONDAY, DECEMBER 27**

7:30 p.m. A.A. Open Meeting



**HAVE A HAPPY & BLESSED NEW YEAR**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31**

7:30 p.m. A.A. Step Meeting

**SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 2**

8:00 a.m. Service of the Word

9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

9:30 a.m. Service of the Word

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time

10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

