



*Circleville Church of N. Huntingdon, PA*  
*A Global Methodist Church*  
*Christmas Eve*

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Christmas Eve Service: 7: 00 p.m.  
**Rev. Gloria A. Jun, Pastor**  
**December 24, 2023**

## Message of Salvation

*Are you saved?*

*Are you confident that you would go to heaven when you die at this moment?*

*Here is the good news for you.*

### **Everyone dies because of sin, and after that ...**

You will die someday because of sin. You cannot avoid death, and death is not the end, but the beginning of an eternal life. What's important is where and how you will live eternally. With eternal happiness in heaven or eternal suffering in hell? If you deal with your sin, you can enter the heaven and live there eternally. How?

### **Jesus Christ has redeemed your sin.**

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to this world and bore the cross shedding his blood to redeem your sin and triumphed in his resurrection. Through his sacrifice, Christ paid off your sin and purchased a place for you in heaven, which he offers as a free gift.

### **If you want for your sins to be forgiven and to be saved ...**

1. Accept Christ's invitation by repenting your sins by asking,  
"Lord, I repent of all my sins. Please forgive all of my iniquities I have committed, and lead me to your kingdom."
2. Confess, "Jesus Christ is my Savior," by praying,  
"Lord, I confess that You are my Savior who can deliver me from the eternal damnation of sin and death. Come into my heart and be my master for my entire life."
3. Rejoice, you are forgiven and given an eternal life without condemnation.
4. Congratulations! You become a child of God and a citizen of Heaven.

### **What's next?**

1. Read the Bible, the Word of God, in which you will find Truth and Peace.
2. Join a local church where you will grow in faith
3. Do good works as much as you can. Sharing God's love for others is a form of worship.

If you, having read this, trusted Jesus for eternal salvation, please let us know. We would like to help you to grow spiritually.

**Please contact Pastor Gloria Jun at 410-302-4477 or 724-864-1581**

## Christmas Eve Service 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Prelude... “*Ancient of Days, Newborn Tonight*” by Parker

Mary Jane Clark, Organist

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Gloria A. Jun

\*Call to Worship (Luke 2)

Leader: What’s happening?

**People: A child is born.**

Leader: Who is this child?

**People: This is Jesus, God’s gift to us.**

Leader: Let’s go see!

**People: The baby is in a manger.**

Leader: Let’s go tell!

**People: Jesus is born!**

Leader: Let’s praise God!

**People: Glory to God!**

\*Opening Prayer (In Unison):

**Loving God, this is a holy night. We come longing to hear your story of new life and hope. Speak your words of truth and power. May the gift of your love be born anew among us. Cast out our fears, that we may rejoice in your power and your goodness. Amen.**

\*Lighting of the Advent Candles and the Christ Candle

Tonight, we light all the candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ. The candles of hope, peace, love and joy all remind us that Christ is our light and the source of eternal hope, everlasting peace, boundless love, and endless joy. The Christ candle reminds us that God’s perfect gift was sent to us that we might have life abundant and everlasting. Joy to the world, and peace on earth. Let us worship Christ, the newborn King.

\*Advent Candle Lighting Song #2090 (TFWS) Sing first four verses without refrain and the last one with refrain.

### **THE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS:**

**Nancy and Scott Goodish**

The Promise of the Coming of Messiah – Isaiah 11:1-9 (NRSV)

Carol #216 “*Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*”

His Coming is Announced to Mary and Joseph – Luke 1:26-27 (NRSV)

Carol #215 “*To a Maid Engaged to Joseph*”

The Birth of Jesus – Luke 2:1-7 (NRSV)

Carol #219 “*What Child Is This*”

Solo #230 “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*”

The Shepherds Visitation of the Savior of the World – Luke 2:8-16 (NRSV)

Carol #218 – *“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”*

The Wise Men Find the King of the Jews – Matthew 2:1-11 (NRSV)

Carol #254 *“We Three Kings”*

The Christmas Offering

The Offertory... *“The Coventry Carol”* by Southridge

The Doxology

The Christmas Prayer

Meditation... *“God’s Great Project”*

Pastor Gloria A. Jun

**Lights will be dimmed.**

### SERVICE OF CANDLELIGHTING

\*Hymn #239 vs. 1 & 4 – *“Silent Night”*

- 1. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**
- 4. Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King,  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!**

Christmas Proclamation

\*Christmas Celebration #246

*“Joy to the World”*

- 1. 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.**
- 2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

3. **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.**
4. **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.**

\*The Benediction – Luke 2

Pastor: We have heard the Christmas story of love—love born in a manger.

**People: Like the shepherds, we found the Christ child.**

Pastor: Like Mary, we hold this story deep in our hearts.

**People: Let us join the angels, telling this news of incredible joy.**

Pastor: And may God's blessing of peace be ours this night and forevermore.

\*The Postlude... *"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"* by Calkin

*(\*Please stand, if able)*

**The Promise of the Coming Messiah – Isaiah 11:1-9 (NRSV)**

**11** A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup>The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze,

their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

### **His Coming is Announced to Mary and Joseph – Luke 1:26-27 (NRSV)**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

### **The Birth of Jesus – Luke 2:1-7 (NRSV)**

**2** In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### **The Shepherds Visitation of the Savior of the World – Luke 2:8-16 (NRSV)**

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,<sup>[b]</sup> praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

## The Wise Men Find the King of the Jews – Matthew 2:1-11 (NRSV)

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men<sup>[a]</sup> from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,<sup>[b]</sup> and have come to pay him homage.” 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah<sup>[c]</sup> was to be born. 5 They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6 ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd<sup>[d]</sup> my people Israel.’”

7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men<sup>[e]</sup> and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” 9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,<sup>[f]</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>[g]</sup> they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.