

**ZION'S REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
260 Main Street - Greenville, PA - 724-588-6940  
info@zionsucc.org

Rev. June Boutwell, Senior Pastor  
Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries  
\*Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able

CHRISTMAS EVE 2021  
7:00 p.m.  
A SERVICE OF LESSONS, CAROLS, AND CANDLES

THE PRELUDE                    "Messiah Medley"                    G. F. Handel/Bernadine W. Johnson

THE ENTRANCE OF LIGHT                    Emily Rinella, Acolyte

INVITATION TO THE NATIVITY (from Luke 2:13-15)

Pastor:            Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill toward all.

People:            **For out of God's own being, Jesus has come to bring love and light to all people.**

Pastor:            Jesus is our Emmanuel - God with us - come to gather our tears and laughter, our work and play into God's love.

People:            **Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which God has made known to us!**

\*THE OPENING HYMN            "O Come All Ye Faithful"

**O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,**

**O Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!**

**Come and behold Him, born the king of angels.**

**Refrain:            O Come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,**

**O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

**Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation!**

**Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!**

**Now to our God be Glory in the highest!**

**Refrain**

**Yea, Lord we greet Thee. Born this happy morning.**

**O Jesus, forever be Thy Name adored!**

**Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!**

**Refrain**

A READING: Light in the Darkness    Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Emily Rinella, Acolyte

Pastor: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**People: O Lord, you are the Christ, our Hope, our Peace, our Joy, and our Love.**

Pastor: The Word became flesh and came to dwell among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**People: O Lord, you are the Christ, our Hope, our Peace, our Joy, and our Love.**

Pastor: God's promises are true. We celebrate the birth of Christ, the Promised Child, the Savior of the World!

**People: O Lord, you are the Christ, our Hope, our Peace, our Joy, and our Love.**

Pastor: Tonight we light the Christ Candle.

**LIGHT THE CANDLE.**

As the flames gleam we are reminded that Christ is the true light of the world, and with the Christ candle at the center, the flames of hope, peace, joy and love burn even brighter. Joy to the world! The Lord has come.

CHOIR ANTHEM "Look Into the Christmas Sky" (CCLI #4851776) David Fettke

A READING: From Bethlehem Shall Come Forth Micah 5:2-5a

\*CAROL "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting Light;  
The hope and fear of all the years are met in thee tonight.  
For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together, proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.**

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.**

**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 Emmanuel!**

A READING: The Birth of the Messiah Luke 2: 1-7

CHOIR ANTHEM "One Small Child" (CCLI #10783) David Meece, Arr. Lloyd Larson

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

**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.**

A READING: Glory to God.....On Earth Peace Luke 2:8-20

CHOIR ANTHEM "Go Tell It on the Mountain" Arr. Lloyd Larson

CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "The Birthday of a King" Bernadine W. Johnson

\*The Doxology

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

\*The Prayer of Dedication

A READING: The Light Shines John 1:1-14

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

Please remain seated while you receive light for your candle. To light your candle, **tilt your unlighted candle to the already lighted one of your neighbor.** Then hold your lighted candle upright as your neighbor on the other side tilts his/her candle toward you. Family members must closely supervise children while candles are lit. Preschool children should share a candle with an adult. Extinguish candles after the singing of "Joy to the World".

\*HYMN "Silent Night" (on last verse, raise candles high)

**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**

**Silent Night! Holy Night! Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born**

**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.**

\*A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS (by Robert Louis Stevenson)

\*CAROL "Joy to the World"  
**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.**

**Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns.  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, Repeat, the sounding joy.**

**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.**  
(Please extinguish your candle)

\*A BENEDICTION

\*THE POSTLUDE "Just Another Christmas" John Cumberland

The poinsettias in the sanctuary are placed

In Memory of:

Howard and Martha Enterline, by John and Jodie Enterline.

George and Sarah Johnson, by John and Jodie Enterline.

Leon Holler, Vada and Arthur Beighley, Linda Beighley, Sandra Wiand, Sarah Fry and Harold Holler, by Carol Holler.

Daughter Amy and my parents, by Carol Herrick.

My son Craig and my husband Gary, by Anita Powell.

Roy and Virginia Saylor and Richard Saylor, by Vanessa Saylor.

Natalie and Jerry Webber, by your daughter Rise L. Webber.

Don Bresnan, Francis Bresnan & Betty Altany, by Donna Bresnan.

Dorothea and Robert Brink, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brink, Jr.

Bill and Ruth Brink, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brink, Jr.

Harrison and Erma Brink, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brink, Jr.

Glady and Cliff Ray, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brink, Jr.

Mary and Willie Weikel, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brink, Jr.

Norma Eddy, by Chub Eddy.

Our Parents, by Ron and Mary Ann Malson.

Deceased Family members, by Louise Semroc.

My parents, by Karen Galus.

In Honor of:

Your present and past clergy who served Zion's Church throughout the years, by Ruth Nace.

Our family, by Bob and Jean Fagley.

Diana Olenik, Great granddaughter's Birthday on December 23, 2016, by Louise Semroc.

*May you be filled with  
the wonder of Mary,  
the obedience of Joseph,  
the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ  
child.*

*Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now  
and forever.*

**Merry Christmas and a blessed  
New Year!**