

The poinsettias in the sanctuary are given

In memory of:

Irene R. and Howard C. Wilson, Wendy Wilson
Garraghty and Robert K Nace, by Beverly Wilson
Nace, Robert F. Nace, and Gregory Howard
Wilson.



Our families, by Ron and Mary Ann Malson.

Rev. Dr. Robert Keifer Nace, by Ruth Nace.

Pat and Gerald Fry, by Kim and Brian Scott and family.

Doris and Wayne Scott, by Kim and Brian Scott and family.

Our parents Herb and Shirley Aikens and grandparents Carl and
Mamie Perrine and Samuel and Elizabeth Aikens, by Janice and Alan
Aikens.

Mel and Esther Berry, by Karen Galus.

Roy, Virginia and Richard Saylor, by Vanessa Saylor.

Mom and Dad, Emery and Helen "Honey" Morrison, by Tim and
Marta Morrison.

My brother and sister, Emery "Bub" Jr. and Bonnie, by Tim and
Marta.

Craig, son, brother, uncle by Anita Powell and family.

Our son, Major Ryan W. Nicklin, by Darrell and Sue Nicklin.

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

Tom Herrick, by Ruth Herrick.

Jim Saal, by Carol Saal.

Natalie and Jerry Webber, my parents, by daughter Rise L.
Weber.

Robert and Dorotha Brink, Erma and Harrison Brink, Bill and Ruth
Brink, Mary and Wilbur Weikal, Elizabeth and Charles Lanning,
Gladys and Clifford Ray, by Robert Brink.

In Honor of:

Our family, by Robert and Pat Seiple.

The spray on the piano is given in memory of Theodore W. Seinar, Jr.
and Sarah Batanian Seinar, Samuel and Agnes Joan Rognick.



Christmas

begins with

Christ

For unto us a child is born.....

And his name shall be called

Wonderful,

Counselor,

The Mighty God,

The Everlasting Father,

The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

WELCOME TO ZION'S REFORMED CHURCH

United Church of Christ
260 Main Street, Greenville, PA 16125
Rev. Glenn Sadler
Lori Seinar-Roknick, Director of Music Ministries
Church Phone: 724-588-6940

Large Print Bulletins, Children's Activity Books, seat cushions
and copies of the sermon are available in the back of the
sanctuary.

*Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023 - 7:00 p.m.
A SERVICE OF LESSONS, CAROLS, AND CANDLES

THE PRELUDE "Waiting for Messiah" Robert W. Thygerson

THE ENTRANCE OF LIGHT Emilee Deeter, Acolyte

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

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and
good will 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 gath-
er 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!**

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)

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE "Joy to The World" G. F. Handel/Richard Blake

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*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!**

*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

*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.**

*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

CHOIR ANTHEM “Twinkle, Twinkle, Christmas Star” Kupferschmid
Chancel Choir and Angel Choir

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Emilee Deeter, 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. 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.

A READING: From Bethlehem Shall Come Forth Micah 5:2-5a and Micah 6:6-8

*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

SOLO "Mary Did You Know?" Ruth Herrick

WORD FOR THE FAMILY

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 "The Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth"
Jennifer Demichel

PASTOR'S MESSAGE "The Christmas Gift"

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation

Offertory Music "There's a Song in the Air" Lani Smith

*The Doxology

*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".