



Sunday, December 27, 2020

Christmas 1

Worship focus: *Christmas Came Anyway: Even with Sorrow.*

HYMN

46 – “Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We”(verses 1 and 3)
(The “Amen” is sung after the last hymn only.)

**1. Your little ones, dear Lord, are we
And come your lowly bed to see;
Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind
That we the way to you may find.**

**3. Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
And to us all your grace accord;
True faith and love to us impart
That we may hold you in our heart.**

Please stand.

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 51:9-11

Sorrow is real, but it will flee before the Lord.

Awake, awake! Clothe yourself with strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in days gone by, as in generations of old. Was it not you who cut Rahab to pieces, who pierced that monster through? ¹⁰ Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep, who made a road in the depths of the sea so that the redeemed might cross over? ¹¹ The ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Special music - "Noel", composed by Lauren Daigle,

Performed by Kyara Koepsell, accompanied by Julia Lisanti.

SECOND LESSON – 2 Corinthians 7:8-13

Sorrow in this world has a purpose: to lead us to see the salvation that God has given us and leave us with no regret.

Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while— ⁹ yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. ¹⁰ Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. ¹¹ See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter. ¹² So even though I wrote to you, it was not on account of the one who did the wrong or of the injured party, but rather that before God you could see for yourselves how devoted to us you are. ¹³ By all this we are encouraged.

THE VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia. (Colossians 3:15a)

Please stand.

P: The Gospel according to Luke chapter 2:

C: Glory be to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL – Luke 2:28-38

Mary was told that because of Christmas, she would experience sorrow. Yet, the promise that God kept filled Simeon and Anna with joy.

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all people, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³ The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.” ³⁶ There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY 449 – “Children Of The Heavenly Father”(verses 1 and 2)

**1. Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird or star in heaven
Such a refuge ne'er was given.**

**2. God his own doth tend and nourish;
In his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them;
In his mighty arms he bears them**

SERMON Text: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. ⁶ There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹ The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Theme: The Word Became Flesh—for you!

1. To reveal God's truth.
2. To bring God's grace.

Please stand.

CREATE IN ME



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -



tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

OFFERING

Offering plates are near the exits for you to place your thank-offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

HYMN

40 – “O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is” (verses 1 and 3)

**1. O Jesus Christ, Your manger is
My paradise where my soul is reclining.
For there, O Lord, We find the Word
Made flesh for us –
your grace is brightly shining.**

**3. Dear Christian friend, On him depend;
Be of good cheer & let no sorrow move you.
For God's own child In mercy mild
Joins you to him –
how greatly God must love you!**

Please stand.

P: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give ☩ you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN

50 – “Once In Royal David's City” (verses 1 and 2)

1. Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed;
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy. Amen.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Matt Nowak
Office: 419-326-4402
Cell: 419-302-5271
Email: pastormattn@gmail.com

Church/School Secretary
School Office: 419-326-4685
Email: tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org
Website: tlcjenera.org

GREETERS today are:

New Year's Eve:

Next Sunday:

Barb Roidt & Ruth Marquart – Early Service
Charlotte Brown & Janice Rausch – Late
Joyce Beach & Loretta Jansen
Tom & Becky Smith – Early Service
Richard and Ruth Johnson – Late Service

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (week of December 20, 2020)

Total Worship Attendance: 152; Early: 73; Late: 65; Adult Bible Study: 21; Teen Bible Study: 4; Mornings with Mommy: 44. On-line worship service views for December 13 were 49.

MONEY COUNTERS for this morning through January 2 are the members of Craig von Stein's Undershepherd group. Beginning Sunday, January 3 will be the members of David Bower's Undershepherd group.

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY (December 27 – January 3)

TODAY **Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30**; WELS Connection; Adult Bible Study 9:20; Teen Bible Class 9:20.

WED Handbells 6:30;

THU New Year's Eve Service 7:00.

SUN **Worship 8:00 AM & 10:30**; Communion; Adult Bible Study; Teen Bible Study 9:20.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

MON – January 3rd - No School- Christmas Break.

THE WELS CONNECTION will be shown after each service today.

CALL MEETING!! There will be a special call meeting on January 3rd at 1:00pm to call an associate pastor and a 7th and 8th grade teacher and principal. All voting members are encouraged to attend.

THANK YOU to Vicar Collin Wenzel for guest preaching today. We are truly blessed to have him here with us!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Marlene Eick for enriching our service today as guest organist. We are blessed to have her with us today, also.

NEW YEAR'S EVE Holy Communion worship will be celebrated Thursday, December 31, at 7:00pm. Close the year praising your Lord for all His grace to you in 2020!

LADIES AID: Our next meeting will be Monday, January 11th at 7:30 in the church sanctuary. Our devotion on prayer will continue. Masks and social distancing will be observed. Thank you to all who participated in the Advent Service.

COLORS AND SHAPES: Come learn about colors and shapes at Mornings with Mommy on Monday, January 4 or Tuesday, January 5. Join us in the church basement from 9:30-10:30 to explore colorful rice, yarn, or pom-poms, sort objects by color, make a rainbow collage and color wheel, and build with colorful blocks. Register online at tlcjenera.org or call 262-391-7994.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the basement. Please retrieve them and double check the address. If the address is incorrect, please contact Clark Inniger at 419-306-0127 or email tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org or cdinniger@roadrunner.com. *These are not for use until 2021.*

A NEW YEAR OF SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday school lesson packets for three-year-olds, containing lessons 14-18, are available for pick up in the narthex. Packets are labeled with each child's name and are on the left side of the table. Sunday School for Pre-school through 8th grade continues by lessons-on-video at nph.net/ss-at-home. The Bible lesson for today/this week is #3, "Samson." Packets of lessons that go with the videos, can be picked up for Pre-school through 8th grade from a table in the narthex. It's not too late to do Sunday School with your child in 2021. May God bless your child/children as we together continue to share His love.

CHRISTMAS SHUT-IN DONATIONS - Anyone wishing to donate items may place them in the tote located by the south entrance of the church by December 31st. Suggested items include: body-lotion, powder or soap, emery boards, Chapstick, mouth wash, shampoo, facial tissues, boost/ensure, candy, or monetary (cash in an envelope) gifts. *Non-perishable* items only, please. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Weihrauch, Mary Ann Gallant, Mary Heldman or Stacy Heldman from the Ladies Aid Committee.

THE ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING will be held on January 27th at 7:30pm. Voters – now is your opportunity to have your voices heard! All voters are encouraged to attend. Voters consist of male communicant members who have reached the age of 18. The Lord has called men to be the leaders for the congregational team. More than likely your grandfather and father have served on the Lord's team over the past years. Now is the time for the next generation to show their love for Him by becoming part of the team. God wants you to serve Him. Your service as a voter is wanted and needed by your Lord and your church.

*May the
miracle of
that first
Christmas
renew your
heart with Joy.*

