

Sunday, December 27, 2009

Christmastide

9 Lessons and Carols

Welcome to our celebration of corporate worship. We are glad you are here and invite you to join us for refreshments following the service. In the order of the service, an asterisk () indicates that the congregation is standing. Also, please take a moment to let us know of your presence by signing the blue fellowship register located in each row.*

Today we celebrate communion. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, has ordained and instituted the sacrament of communion to nourish and to sustain those who are part of his family, the church. Baptized believers in Christ may receive the sacrament in the gathering of God's people. All those who have not put their trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior are asked to abstain from the sacrament.

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

"Annunciation" *(from John Donne's Holy Sonnets)*

Salvation to all that will is nigh;
That All, which always is all everywhere,
Which cannot sin, and yet all sins must bear,
Which cannot die, yet cannot choose but die,
Lo! Faithful Virgin, yields Himself to lie
In prison, in thy womb; and though He there
Can take no sin, nor thou give, yet He'll wear,
Taken from thence, flesh, which death's force may try.
Ere by the spheres time was created, Thou
Wast in His mind, who is thy Son, and Brother;
Whom thou conceivest, conceived; yea, thou art now
Thy Maker's maker, and thy Father's mother,
Thou hast light in dark, and shut'st in little room
Immensity, cloister'd in thy dear womb.

WE ENTER INTO WORSHIP

Call to Worship *(Psalm 98:1-4)*

Pastor: Sing to the Lord a new song for he has done marvelous things;
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.
The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed His
righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness
to the house of Israel;
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,
Burst into jubilant song with music!

God's Greeting (*Revelation 1: 4-5*)

Pastor: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

(We receive God's greeting and greet one another.)

THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES OF THE COMING OF CHRIST

Leader: We begin after the dawn of human history, in the Garden of Eden.

The First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15 (*Bible page 2*)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Carol: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (grey) PH #345 (*children's percussion*)

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The Herald angles sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
2. Christ, by highest heave adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! The Herald angles sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
4. Come, Desire of nations come, fix in us Thy humble home;
Rise, the woman's conqu'ring Seed, bruise in use the serpent's head.
Now display Thy saving power, ruined nature now restore.
Now in mystic union join Thine to ours, and ours to Thine.
Hark! The Herald angles sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

5. Adam's likeness Lord, efface, stamp Thine image in its place:
Second Adam from above, reinstate us in Thy love.
Let us Thee, though lost, regain, Thee, the Life, the inner man:
O, to all Thyself impart, formed in each believing heart.
Hark! The Herald angles sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Leader: The plot of Christmas is unfolded throughout the generations:

The Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18 (*Bible page 16*)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Carol: The God of Abraham Praise (grey) PH #621, verses 1, 4 and 5

Leader: After receiving God's steadfast love for generation after generation, the people of God rebelled like their first father, Adam.

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14 (*Bible page 554*)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Carol: Emmanuel (green) Sing! #117

Leader: Immanuel, God with us, was to be the name of the virgin's Son.

The Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7 (*Bible page 555*)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Carol: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (Insert)

Leader: Eve's offspring would be a King,

The Fifth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9 (*Bible page 558*)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Carol: Lo, How a Rose Ere Blooming (grey) PH #351

THE GOSPEL FULFILLMENT OF THE COMING OF CHRIST

Leader: Promises, promises, so many promises;

The Sixth Lesson

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the first chapter

People: Glory to You, O Lord

Luke 1:26-38 (*Bible page 831*)

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Canticle: Song of Mary/My Soul Proclaims with Wonder (green) Sing! #102

Leader: In the providence of God, Caesar Augustus called for a taxation of the land in the year in which Mary was to give birth to the Son of God, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The Seventh Lesson

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the second chapter

People: Glory to You, O Lord

Luke 2:1-7 (*Bible page 832*)

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Carol: What Child is This (Insert)

Leader: After this stupendous wonder of God, we see the true nature of Christ's kingdom revealed in those who first beheld him and in the humble surroundings of his birth.

The Eighth Lesson

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the second chapter

People: Glory to You, O Lord

Luke 2:8-16 (*Bible page 833*)

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Carol: While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (grey) PH #215

Leader: After Jesus was born, he was visited by Magi, who were princely men from the East.

Carol: O Come, All Ye Faithful (grey) PH #340

Leader: What an amazing wonder God has done in sending his eternal Son to become human, yet remain God: the birth of God in the flesh. For here we see that the seed of the woman, the seed of Abraham, the Son of the virgin, the Son given unto us, the one who was to be a ruler from Bethlehem, was in truth, God in the flesh. "Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail the Incarnate Deity!"

WE RESPOND IN THANKSGIVING

(Our morning offering is an act of worship whereby we as members of this church express our gratitude to and reliance on God. Guests and visitors should not feel that participation in this part of the service is obligatory.)

General Fund offering and Special Offering for Kennedy/King Campus Ministry

(Please take a moment during the offering to enter your name and contact information in the welcome pad found at the end of each row and pass the pad to your neighbor.)

Offertory Prayer

THE COMMUNION (using the grey communion liturgy)

The Ninth Lesson

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to John the first chapter

People: Glory to You, O Lord

John 1:1-14 *(Bible page 862)*

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Leader: This "grace" that "came through Jesus Christ" ...

Sending Carol: Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come (grey) PH 337 v. 1-3
(children's percussion)

Benediction

Sending Carol: Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come (grey) PH 337 v. 4
(children's percussion)

Announcements

Note: Various components of this service are reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, or Sing! A New Creation, ©2001 CRC Publications



LOOP CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Connecting people to God, God's people, and God's work in the world.

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Christmastide, Sunday, December 27, 2009

CHRISTMASTIDE

The Season of Christmas begins with the First Sunday of Advent, marked by expectation and anticipation, and concludes with Epiphany, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world. The twelve days that separate Christmas Day and Epiphany are called Christmastide, or the Twelve Days of Christmas.

The sanctuary colors for Christmastide are white and gold. These are the colors of celebration, newness, and hope that mark the most sacred days of the church year.

This Week at Loop

PREACHING: **WORSHIP LEADER:** Mike Mols **Music:** Barb Timmermans, Sonja Will

Welcome to our worship service at Loop Christian Ministries. After the service, you're invited to share refreshments and fellowship with us in the gym. **PLEASE REMEMBER – NO FOOD OR DRINK TO BE TAKEN INTO CARPETED AREAS!** A nursery is available for younger children during the service. Nursery is for children under the age of 5.

Church Volunteer Opportunities: Please be sure to check with Jim Bosman after the service regarding the worship assistant sign-up sheet. There are many opportunities to get involved on Sunday morning including greeting people, bringing refreshments, and watching children in nursery.

Worship Assistants:

Date	Set up	Greeters	Nursery	Nursery	Refreshments	SS 4-7	SS 8-12	Offering
12/27/09	Ginny	Kristin & Abram	Yvana	Matt VZ	Mary & Jim	No	lesson	Corwin & Paul
1/3/10	Daane	Kevin & Mona	Megan H	Tim W	Norma & Rosetta	Sharon	Kevin	Corwin & Kristin
1/10/10	Steve	Jim & Mary	Claire	Rob W	Carolyn	Vera	Kevin	Rebecca & Corwin
1/17/10	Daane	Nancy & Paul	Steve	Erica	Steve & Barb	Vera	Paul/Nancy	Kristin & Paul

Calendar:

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sunday, January 10	SJOM Brown Bagging	11:15-11:45 AM	Daystar
Monday, January 11	Worship Team Meeting	6:30 – 8:00 PM	Chicago Semester
Tuesday, January 19	Steering Council Meeting	6:00 – 8:00 PM	Church Office
Tuesday, January 19	SJOM Supper	6:15 – 8:00 PM	SJOM
Sunday, January 24	Common Meal	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Daystar

Offering Update: Gen Fund: December 20: \$6,619.00, FYTD: \$57,578.08; FYTD Budget: \$67,545.96; Excess (shortfall): (\$9,967.88)

Email Prayer Requests: If you would like to be included in this ministry and receive periodic prayer requests from members of LCM, please email LCM@loopchurch.org. If you would like to submit a prayer request go to our website at www.loopchurch.org and click on the Prayer Requests link and follow the instructions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Contact jim@loopchurch.org if you would like to add or update an event on the web calendar. Events from the calendar are also included in the bulletin but REMEMBER - the bulletin is printed on Tuesday so get your event in the bulletin you must have your updates in by then.

SERVICELINK'S WINTER HOT LIST of volunteer opportunities with the CRC has arrived and is posted on our Mission bulletin board (http://www.crcna.org/pages/servicelink_opp_hotlist.cfm). Check out the variety of opportunities to serve in the areas of technology, leading worship, and farming – plus more. There are also some unique group opportunities.

THANK YOU! With your support, CRWRC has had another successful World Hunger Campaign (**Peter Fish**). this year, our church raised \$524.96 for CRWRC ministry to people around the world. For additional information about CRWRC, please visit www.crwrc.org

BACK TO GOD HOUR - Speaking of Money... Whether we like it or not, money is part of our everyday lives. So if money is necessary, but the love of it is evil, what's the middle ground? Is there a healthy approach to money? Find out on the Jan. 3 Back to God Hour. Go to www.BacktoGod.net for local stations and times.

KIDS CORNER - Wilderness Club: Liz is off on a dangerous camping trip with all of his friends. Join the fun on this week's Kids Corner. Kids Corner is a member of the HisKids.net alliance--working together to provide quality entertainment for kids that is Christ-centered and Bible-based. Visit HisKids.net to find great Christian programs and music for kids.

CALVIN COLLEGE - The next Festival of Faith and Writing will take place on Apr. 15-17. Speakers include Eugene Peterson, Parker Palmer, Kate DiCamillo, Mary Karr, Stephen Carter, Avi, Wally Lamb, and many others. Group discounts are available for book clubs and church-affiliated groups. Reserve today by registering online at www.calvin.edu/festival. For more information, contact the Festival office by phone at 616.526.6770 or by e-mail at ffw@calvin.edu.

CRWRC - "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." Everyone at CRWRC wishes you a blessed Christmas! We rely on the generous support of individuals and CRC congregations to carry out our ministry. Last year, your support enabled CRWRC to share with more than 1.3 million people in need. To continue these vital programs, CRWRC needs your gift more than ever. Please give generously.

DISABILITY CONCERNS - The winter issue of Disability Concerns' quarterly resource for churches, *Breaking Barriers*, features articles on hospitality. Find it in your church mailbox or online at www.crcna.org/disability.

CHICAGO CHRISTIAN COUNSELING CENTER is offering a support group, **WAITING in Still Waters**, for couples sharing the struggle of infertility. The group is facilitated by Rev. Marj Kooy, MDiv, BCC, and will meet in our Orland Park office the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month from 7:00 - 8:30pm. Cost \$25/session per couple. For registration/more info call (708) 845-5500 or go online at www.chicagochristiancounseling.org.

CBI BROADCAST NEWS: This week's restorative justice news that you need to know includes the reduction of sentences for crack cocaine usage, how leech DNA cracked a case and how kids and candy lead to criminal behavior. Go to www.cbi.fm to listen to Crossroad Connection—a restorative justice ministry of Crossroad Bible Institute.



Below you will find the **Mission Statement** of LCM. This is what we intend to be about and that for which we wish to be held accountable. Is it working for you? Let us know. Is it not working for you? By all means, speak to a member of our steering team and we will make adjustments. We firmly believe that this is what God has called and positioned us to do.

As People who belong to God we welcome you, accept you for who you are, and believe you are valuable to our community. To equip you for a life of security in God alone, we will pray with you, walk with you, study God's word with you, be accountable with you, and worship with you. You will be challenged to speak about the hope you have in Christ to an inquiring world. We will provide you with opportunities to show and tell of God's reconciling love.

Pastor: Timothy H. Douma **Steering Council:** Kristin VanEngen (Chair), Rebecca Reed, Corwin Will

Treasurer: Tim Wurpts

Prayer Coordinator: Lexi Wurpts

Ministry Coordinator: Jim Bosman

Missionaries: John Hoekwater - Rogers Park; John Zayas - Hermosa; Rosetta Polk-Pugh - Campus

OFFICE SCHEDULE: Office hours are by appointment, generally Monday through Thursday

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES (Please call the church office for further information)

◇ Opportunities to help with Rogers Park and Hermosa Church Planting Ministries

◇ Volunteer commitment surveys are available at the church office.

REGULAR MEETINGS: ◇ The Steering Council meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

◇ The Worship Committee meets the second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

◇ Small groups meet during the week throughout the city.

◇ You are invited to speak with Tim, or a member of the steering council about starting a new group