

Worship Bulletin

4th Sunday of Advent, December 24, 2023



"The Harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" ~ Luke 10:2

Welcome!

For God's glory and by His grace, Harvest Fellowship exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ who are progressively growing in their love of God, their love of people, and their commitment to help others grow as disciples.

If you are visiting us today, we would like to connect with you! Please scan the QR code in the insert or complete the yellow 'Welcome' card and place it in the offering plate by the sanctuary entrance.

God Calls Us

Call To Worship – John 3:16-17

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Prayer of Invocation

Angels From the Realms Of Glory

Words by music James Montgomery, Henry Smart

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth;

**Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:

Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear;
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear.

All creation, join in praising,
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One:

Public Domain

Glory in the Highest

Words and music by Chris Tomlin

You are the first, You go before
You are the last, Lord, You're the encore
Your name's in lights for all to see
The starry host declare Your glory

**Glory in the highest
Glory in the highest
Glory in the highest**

Apart from You there is no god
Light of the world, the Bright and Morning Star
Your name will shine for all to see.
You are the one, You are my glory

*And no one else could ever compare
To You, Lord, all the earth together declares ...*

**Glory in the highest,
Glory in the highest,
Glory in the highest,
To You, Lord**

The Heavenly host proclaim Your birth
Glory to God and peace be on the earth
Your name is near Emanuel
God with us here, God pleased with us to dwell

©2009 worshiptogether.com/sixsteps Music. CCLI #1216354

God Renews Us

Advent Reading: Galatians 4:1-7 (p. 974)

¹ I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Lighting of Advent candle of Love

Christmas Alleluia

Words & music by Chris Tomlin & Jonas Myrin

Alleluia, alleluia

Christ, the Savior of the world, He has come

Alleluia, alleluia

To the Highest name of all, Alleluia

The heavens roar, the angels sing

All glory to our God and King

O night divine forevermore

Alleluia

You're the Highest name of all, Alleluia

©2015 WorshipTogether.com CCLI#1216354

Missions Moment: Potomac Presbytery church planting

Prayers of the People

God Speaks to Us

"A Son is Given" ***Genesis 21:1-7 (p. 15)*** ***Barry Noll***

¹ The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised. ² And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³ Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. ⁴ And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶ And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." ⁷ And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Light of the Stable

Words and music by Steve and Elizabeth Rhymer

Hail, hail to the newborn King

Let our voices sing Him our praises

Hail, hail to the guiding Light

That brought us tonight to our Savior

Halle, hallelujah

Halle, hallelujah

Halle, hallelujah

Halle, hallelujah

Come now, let it shine so bright
To the knowing Light of the stable
Kneel close to the Child so dear
Cast aside your fear and be thankful

© 1975 Tessa Publishing Company, CCLI #1216354.

God Sends Us

Worship through Tithes & Offerings

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich" ~ 2 Corinthians 8:9

General offering: metal plate; Mercy Ministry (2nd Sunday): wooden plate

You may also give online at <https://www.hfpca.org/giving> or mail your offering to Harvest Fellowship, P.O. Box 475, Lusby, MD 20657

Good Christian Men Rejoice/Rejoice

Words and Music by Aaron Shust

Good Christian men rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Give ye heed to what we say
Jesus Christ is born today
Ox and lamb before Him bow
He is in the manger now
Christ is born today
Christ is born today

So rejoice, O rejoice
Hallelujah Christ has come
So rejoice, lift your voice
Sing Emmanuel with us
O rejoice

Good Christian men rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye hear of endless bliss
Jesus Christ was born for this
He has opened Heaven's door
And man is blessed forever more
Christ was born for this
Christ was born for this

Good Christian men rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye need not fear the grave
Jesus Christ was born to save
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain His everlasting hall

Christ was born to save
Christ was born to save

public domain

Benediction

Passing of peace/Announcements

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Prayer is available in the Prayer Room



Sermon Notes

For Further Discussion:

1. What similarities and differences do you see between the birth narratives of Isaac and Jesus (vv. 1-4; Lk. 2:1-8)? How are you blessed by the fulfillment of God's promise of a son to Abraham (Gal. 3: 16, 23-4:7)?
2. What is the significance of the reference to God's timing in the fulfillment of His promise of son to Abraham and Sarah (vs. 2; Gen. 17:21; 18:10, 14)? How does the Lord's timing factor in the birth of Christ (Gal. 4:4)?
3. What is the purpose of God's command to Abraham to name and circumcise Isaac (vv. 3-4; Gen. 17:10)? How does purity of Isaac anticipate the holiness of Christ (Lk. 2:21; 3:22)?
4. Why is there repeated references to Abraham's age in Isaac's birth narrative (vv. 5, 2, 7)? How does this one detail about Isaac's birth point the circumstance surrounding the miraculous nature of Christ's birth (Lk. 1:26-38; 2:1-7)?
5. How does the Lord change Sarah's laughter at the birth of Isaac (vv. 6-7; Isa. 54:1; Gen. 18:12, 15)? What difference does the birth of Christ have on your laughter during this Advent season (Lk. 2:10-14; Gal. 3:16)?