



First Sunday of Christmas

December 26, 2021 @10:30 am

Liturgist: Cheryl Cundy

Special Music: Brian Ward, Guitar; Rick Gomez, Piano

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Music as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship

Chimes: Christmas Carols

Organ Prelude *“What Child is This?”* Richard Purvis

Welcome and Announcements

Nursery care is available for infants through age 5 in Room 115.

Children are welcome to use our new “Prayground” space in the Sanctuary (right front section) during the worship service.

An adult will be present to assist the children.

Parents and grandparents are welcome to sit close by.

***Call to Worship**

One: The pine needles are already dropping from the tree, crunchy under our feet, but the carols announcing your birth still ring in our ears.

All: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

One: Decorations are fifty percent off. Valentines are available for purchase, but the scent of the hay still wafts through the air.

All: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

One: We will sing praise to your name. We will remember your love, hope, and light that have entered the world.

All: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

***Opening Hymn** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN *Glory to God Hymnal #119*

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 angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

***Opening Prayer**

Gospel Reading Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Music Meditation *“Welcome to Our World”* Chris Rice

Children’s Moment

Worship bag supplies are available on the worship cart in the narthex.

Gospel Reading Luke 2:22-38

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,

²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people
Israel.”

³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being
said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother
Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in
Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner
thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own
soul too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the
tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband
seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-
four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and
prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to
praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the
redemption of Jerusalem.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Meditation

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

“Pray for One Another”

Please pray this week for these members and families:

Scott Jones; Ted Jones & Mary McGrath; Ramin Karimaei & Rita Ashori, Ramtin, Ramina; Allison Kelly; Charlie & Marline Kelly, Scott; Kathy & Mark Keramidas, Robert, Michael; Nora & Tony Khoury, Sophie, Leo; Mike & Janet Kincaid; Larry & Alyson King, L.J.

Offering

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***Closing Hymn** The First Nowell THE FIRST NOWELL
Glory to God Hymnal #147 vs. 1, 2, & 3

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. **(Refrain)**

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. **(Refrain)**

Benediction

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Organ Response “We Gather Together” Eduard Kremser (1877)

Upcoming services:

Wednesday, December 29 ~ Worship & Communion @ 6:00 pm

Sunday, January 2, 2022 ~ Worship & Communion @ 10:30 am

No Sunday School on this day

Join us in January for “Live in Community”

For more information, please check our website at: www.npc.life