

Scripture Isaiah 9:2-7

Cantata *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Arr. Stirling/Case
Corey Hall, violin

Scripture Luke 1:26-38

Sermon Michael Isaacs

Affirmation of Faith 2 Peter 3:8-13

Don't let it escape your notice, dear friends, that with the Lord a single day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like a single day. The Lord isn't slow to keep his promise, as some think of slowness, but he is patient toward you, not wanting anyone to perish but all to change their hearts and lives. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. On that day the heavens will pass away with a dreadful noise, the elements will be consumed by fire, and the earth and all the works done on it will be exposed. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be? You must live holy and godly lives, waiting for and hastening the coming day of God. Because of that day, the heavens will be destroyed by fire and the elements will melt away in the flames. But according to his promise we are waiting for a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Cantata *A Star Will Soon Shine* N. Price/D. Besig
Sanctuary Choir with Corey Hall, violin

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn #104 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* Valet Will Ich dir Geben
Verses 1 & 2

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

*** Hymn #145**

What Child Is This

Greensleeves

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach

* Please stand in Body or Spirit.

Journey to Christmas Cantata

Come, come with us on our *Journey to Christmas*. This quote, “*Let the shadows surrender to light,*” leads us on our journey next Sunday as we wait and watch for the miracle. The second Sunday of our Cantata Series will feature the Sanctuary Octet plus One and violinist Corey Hall. They will present two anthems that will inspire and encourage us to think about how we prepare our minds and hearts for the miracle so that we may surrender to the light. May the music and the word from Luke 1:39-45 inspire, encourage, comfort and lead you to the birth of Jesus.



Our Life Together...

Leading Worship today: Michael Isaacs, Pastor; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist; Janet Scott, Director/Pianist; Sanctuary Choir; Jessie Jenkins, Worship Assistant; Lynne Mack, Communion Elder; Parker Shablak, Sound Technician; Mary Brehm, Barista.

We warmly welcome violinist **Corey Hall** to our worship. Corey is the orchestra director at Middletown High School. She teaches string classes at the Middle School and Highview. We give thanks for her gifts of music today.

The Worship and Music Ministry Team wishes to thank this congregation for its generosity in purchasing the Christmas Memorial Ornaments. All have been purchased. We have a net profit of \$334.52 which will be put into the Organ Support Fund.

Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available for use during the worship services. Please contact an usher for assistance.

Sensory toys are available outside of the nursery for children who may wish to use them during worship.

The poinsettia in the sanctuary is given in loving memory of **Bill and Jane Rehse** by daughters Ann Veith and Pat Kienlen

Announcements

COVID-19 Reminders: As a general reminder, our COVID provisions include:

- Masks are encouraged for the inclusion of the immunocompromised and children in worship.
- Social distancing is enforced in the sanctuary by the use of alternating pews.
- The length of the worship services be forty-five minutes and not include the passing of any materials.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. This week we are beginning our study of the Gospel According to Luke. We will be reading Luke 1.

Hospice Care of Middletown invites you to the annual Community Candlelight Memorial service titled "A Season to Remember." It is Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Woodside Cemetery and Arboretum. Pastor Michael will be offering the meditation.

Luminaria Kits & Light in the Darkness Prayer Gathering

Join us Sunday, December 19, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the front lawn as we celebrate the season of Advent and prepare for the great mystery of Christmas. Luminaria Advent Kits are available in the Gathering Area. We hope to share these resources broadly, so please consider also picking one up for a neighbor, friend, or relative. Bring your luminaria and help us share the light of Christ as we sing a few carols and pray together.

Advent Devotionals are available in the Gathering Area and Narthex. This devotional includes reflection from Lynne Mack, Joy Zigler, Lisa Kaufer, and Michael Isaacs.

Christmas Eve: Join us on Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. for our Candlelight and Communion Service. Selections of beautiful Christmas music will begin at 6:45 p.m.

Sanctuary Youth will rehearse Wednesday at 6:45 p.m.

Sanctuary Choir will rehearse Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Children's Ministry

Nursery Care is available for infants and children up to 5 years old every Sunday, located next to Room 110. **Sunday School** (children ages 6-12) is offered most Sundays in the Godly Play Room following the Gloria Patri, at which time leaders will escort children to Sunday School. (See PresbyNews for Sunday School schedule.) There is no Sunday School today because of Communion.

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born^[c] will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



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