

Call to Worship Galatians 4:4-5
When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who are under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as His children.

♣️**Invocation**

♣️**Christmas Medley**

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 as man with men 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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Oh come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
Oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels!

✚Those who are able, please stand.

*Oh come, let us adore Him,
Oh come, let us adore Him,
Oh come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God,
All glory in the highest!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning:
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father,
Late in flesh appearing!

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 field abiding,
Watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:

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

Confession of Faith

The Heidelberg Catechism Q. 36
Leader: *How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?*
People: He is our mediator and, in God's sight, He covers with His innocence and perfect holiness my sinfulness in which I was conceived.

The Lord's Prayer

Unison: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen. (Matthew 6:9-15)

Christmas Medley

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come, pleasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

It came upon a midnight clear,
That glorious song old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth,
Good will to men,
From heavens all-gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come

With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O’er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever circling years
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
It’s ancient splendors fling.
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

The first Noel, 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.
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.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel.
Born is the King of Israel.

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.
This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O’er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel.
Born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full reverently upon the knee,
And offered there in his presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel.
Born is the King of Israel.

Pastoral Prayer Minister

✙*O Holy Night!*
O holy night! the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Savior’s birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;
Fall on your knees,
O, hear the angel voices!
O night divine,
O night when Christ was born!
O night divine!
O night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace;
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name;
Christ is the Lord,
O, praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

✙**Sermon Scripture Reading** Minister
Minister: *This is the Word of the Lord.*
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Dr. Renton Rathbun
The Reason for the Season (Christus Natus Est)
Matthew 1:18-23

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

✙**Christmas Medley**
Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods,
Rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, and wonders of His love.

✙**Benediction**

Announcements
The Christmas Eve: Lessons and Carols will be on Wednesday, December 24 @ 6:00 p.m. Please pray for the service and invite friends and family.

Tuesday Morning Study Group: TMSG is watching the Sinclair Ferguson video series, Sojourners and Exiles: The Message of 1st Peter.

Women's Bible study is on break for the remainder of Dec. and will reconvene on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026 at 10 am. Chapter 7 of *The Sermon on the Mount* will be discussed.

Women's Afternoon Out A special women's event is being planned for Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026 from 1-3 pm at the church building. Betsy Eager will be guiding us in the making of a decorative Valentine wreath. We encourage you to bring guests! IMPORTANT: Please sign up on the sheet at the rear of the worship area so the supplies and refreshments can be planned. Please contact Deb Redding at dkredding@verizon.net or 717-852-0608 for further information.

Sunday school class: Have you ever wondered why all the elaborate rituals, sacrifices, cleansing rites in the Old Testament? Why was our God so detailed in his instructions about the tabernacle and temple? What does the Old Testament have to do with the New Testament? We will begin a study of these things and how they relate to Jesus in his person and work. We will look for the ways the Old Testament forms the history and context of the New Testament. Come and fellowship at 9:15. We pray and begin our study at 9:30.

Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m. each Tuesday. See Deon Louw.

Greer Community Ministries: Please bring nonperishable items to help those in need in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

Miracle Hill Overcomers: Please remember to bring coffee and dry coffee supplies for the Overcomers.

THE LORD'S DAY
WORSHIP

Advent
December 21, 2025
10:30 AM

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers
and want fellowship;
to all who hunger
and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the
Lord Jesus Christ.

