



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

(847) 885-1199

WELCOME ALL

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Julie Peterson

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,
for a child has been born for us, a son given to us!

Glory to God in the highest heaven!
Let us worship the Prince of Peace.

CHRISTMAS CAROL NO. 133 “O Come, All Ye Faithful

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of Angels!**

**Refrain: O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created! (sing refrain)**

**Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (sing refrain)**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (sing refrain)**

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE *Isaiah 9:2-7*

We light this candle in hope.

Charlie, Noah, Cristina, Celina, Nancy, Trevor, Adam

We light this candle for peace.

We light this candle in joy.

We light this candle with love.

We light the Christ Candle for it shines bright in our hearts tonight,
radiating the light of Christ into your world!

“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.”

The grace of God has appeared bringing salvation to all.

The long-awaited Christ has come!

Gracious God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit show us the Word made flesh—good news of great joy for all—so we may sing with the angels: glory in the highest and peace on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sung Response

**O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Cathy W.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

O Christ, you were born in a humble stable, because there was no room for you in the inn. Forgive us when we foolishly think there is no room for you in our lives. When we close the doors of our hearts to your word, forgive us, and burst through them with your love. When we close the doors of our minds to your challenge, forgive us, and burst through them with your love. When we close the doors of our homes, our churches, and our cities to people you would have us welcome, forgive us, and speak your angel’s words to us once more: “Do not be afraid.”

OUR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Julie Peterson

THE FIRST NOWELL, NO. 147, vs 1-2

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.

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.**

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

SHARE GOD’S LOVE

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

“Jesus Loves Me”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Cathy W.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

Cathy W.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“What Child Shall Come?”

Dave & Jane

arranged by Patrick M. Liebergen

SERMON

“The Christ Child Comes”

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ... ALL IN JESUS' NAME

HYMN NO. 134

“Joy to the World”

**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 all 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, wonders of his love.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Titus 2:11-14

“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.”

The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ, the Word of God Incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures, which are received and obeyed as the word of God written.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

The Choir

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Cathy W.

HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 113 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing heir joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome 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!**

~ THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER ~

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING²

May the God of holy nights be with you.

May the God of herald angels be with you.

People of God, this is the night God transformed our lives

This is the night we offer our hearts to God.

Children of Bethlehem, lift your voices in joy to God.

Our voices join with all who celebrate the Birth this night.

Into the silence of chaos came your songs of creation, God of never-ending hope—carols which crafted desert cacti, hymns which hand-carved the heavens, psalms which planted grassy fields. You sang your hopes for us—your Light shining the way for those created in your image. But we listened to the boasting of death and worshiped our own desires. You sent the prophets in every age to remind us of your mercy and hope, but we would not behold your glory. Finally, into a silent and fearful world, you sent Jesus, born that we might have life with you. So with shepherds, angels, and parents, with those who sing carols and those whose pain brings only silence, we lift our glad songs to you:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of righteousness.

Creation hears the angelic songs and rejoices.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who is born this night.

Hosanna in the highest!

You could have remained silent in your holiness, God of hillsides and mangers in barns, but you sent your Word into our world to speak your longing for us. You could have consumed us with the heat of your justice, but you sent a Baby to us, to show us your weakness is strong enough to offer us mercy. You could have come as an immortal, but you took on all our human frailties, even experiencing death for us, so that by raising Jesus from the grave, you fill us with resurrection life. As we celebrate the birth of your Grace, as we sing carols of the Babe in the manger, we also speak of the mystery we call faith:

**Christ was born, that we might have life with you.
Christ came, that we might find our way back to you.
Christ became one of us, so we might become more like him.**

Your Holy Spirit poured out upon your children on this most silent of holy nights with the gift of your Son, the gift we now celebrate here at our Lord's Table. We taste the broken Bread and see your goodness, your loving kindness appearing in our midst, not so we might wrap them in shiny paper, but so we can share them. We drink from the Cup offered for us and taste your salvation which has come, good news which we will take to the broken and the lost, the homeless and the hungry, the friendless and the fearful so they might know of your love for them.

And when there is only silence at the end of time, when we are gathered with your holy people, our sisters and brothers from every age and place, around the Table which is prepared in glory, we will lift our carols of joy and wonder to you, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

COMMUNING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION¹

God of shepherds and sheep, we give you thanks for gathering us in heart, mind, and spirit on this most holy of nights. As we shared this time together, you have once again revealed to us your glory and fed us with your mercy. Now send us out with good news for all—for unto us a child is born who is Christ the Lord. Amen

CANDLELIGHT BENEDICTION, No. 122 "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

¹Call to Worship 54.1, © 2020 Office of Theology and Worship Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) pg 30

²Shuman, Thom. Where the Broken Gather: Lectionary Liturgies for RCL Year B (p. 22). Kindle Edition.

Welcome All
Share God's Love
Offer Hope
... all in Jesus' name



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request, please email or text Pastor Julie

Avonne (Laura's mother)
Joyce A (friend of George R)
Linda A (sister of Judy M)
Steve A (father-in-law of Glennas's daughter)
Connie & Ed (friends of Karen)
Kevin B (Joe L's co-worker/friend)
Mildred B
Mary Ann B
Sushma B
Andree C
Chuck C (Laura D's brother)
Patrick C (Stu/Marie's son-in-law)
Renee C (Laura's sister-in-law)
Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Tom C (Ann M's brother-in-law)
Sabina C (Adelaide's sister)
Betty D (Marie R's cousin)
Linda D (Jim/ Sue's relative)
Betty F (Chris L's mother)
Donna F (Jim/Sue's aunt)
Karen F
Lori F (George R's OES friend)
Adelaide G
Bruce & Linda G (friends of Stu/Marie)
Nick G (Stu/Marie's grandson)
Rita H (Jim/Ann's relative)
Hice Family (Jane & Dave's daughter's family)
James & Sandra (friends of John/Cheryl)

Jessica (Charlie/Nancy's niece)
José K (Adelaide's friend)
Marge K (George R's OES friend)
Steve (Jane's brother)
Bob L (husband of Judie T's friend)
Jim/Sheryl L (Ken/Pat's son-in-law/daughter)
Phyllis L
McKenzie (daughter of Michelle V's friend)
Judy M
Klee M (Fritz/Fay's son)
Kofi M (Adelaide's family friend)
Lisa M (Karen's daughter)
Rachel M (Rutter's granddaughter)
Jim M
Steve M
Dick McW (Ann M's brother)
Susan Q (Ann S's boss)
Maria R (Laura D's friend)
Jessie R (Julie/Jeff's niece)
Ann & Geoff S
Marnie S (Glenna M's friend)
Shirley (Cathy W's aunt)
Larry V (Jim V's father)
Those who are caregivers
Those devastated by terrorism
Our world and all affected by COVID-19
Those affected by the devastating forest fires
Those who grieve



Dedicated to the Glory of God by :

*Chris and Mike L
Jane & Dave L*

Dedicated in Honor of :

*Our children and grandchildren - Larry & Dawn A
Doris Swift - Cathy W
June Cameron & Lois Baker - Marilyn & John B
Pastor Julie - George R
Grateful thanks for our Church family - Moorman family
Our family - Moorman family
Grandchildren - Glenna & Henk M
Families, past, present and to come - Judie & Stu T
Children & grandchildren - Marie & Stu R
Children & grandchildren - Keppel family*

Dedicated in Memory of :

*Parents and sister - Carole B
Parents - Stu & Marie R
Parents - Keppel family
Family who are with us in spirit - Moorman family
Ralph 'Bud' Sorenson - Letterer family
Edwin Swift, Dorothy & Donald Walker - Cathy W
Parents, Marie & Leonard Spencer - Karen Franz
Ina & Justin Lauzon & Ruth Buchholz - Jim & Susan B
Auntie Marilyn, Uncle Harold, Raul De La Cruz & Robert Cole - De La Cruz Family
Parents, William & Marie Lemke & Crosby & Eleanor Rogers - George R
Joan Rogers - George R
Amy Elizabeth Peterson, Earl & Betty Nelson - Jeff & Julie P
Jann Peterson & Roger Nelson - Jeff & Julie P*

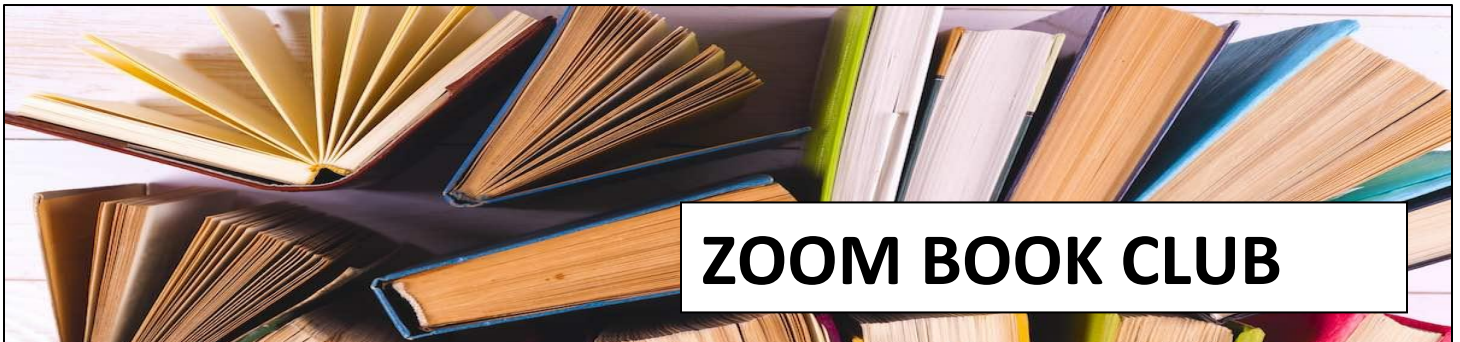


ZOOM LUNCH WITH PASTOR JULIE

Join us via Zoom every Wednesday at 12 noon for bible study as we discuss scripture passages for our upcoming worship service. Contact Pastor Julie for the Zoom access information to join the Zoom session.

Here is the schedule:

December 30	NO CLASS
January 6	Mark 1:4-11; Acts 19:1-7
January 13	John 1:43-51; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
January 20	Mark 1:14-20; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31



ZOOM BOOK CLUB

**Our next Book Club meetings will be on:
Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7 pm**
We will be discussing “Brooklyn by Colm Toibin”

If you want to be included, please email Judie at judietrue@gmail.com and she will send you a Zoom invitation.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

DROP OFF AT 1 ILLINOIS BLVD HOFFMAN ESTATES

Mondays to Fridays from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

FINANCIAL DONATIONS:

Monetary donations allow us to purchase goods based on the needs of our clients at wholesale prices and is the easiest way to meet the growing demand at this time. Checks can be mailed to the Township (Attn: Food Pantry) and should be made out to the Township of Schaumburg with Food Pantry in the memo section. Donations can also be made online through our website schaumburgtownship.org. Please remember to signify the donation should be made to the Food Pantry.

FOOD DONATIONS:

- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Pasta and Pasta Sauce
- Soup
- Oatmeal and Cereal
- Canned Meats (tuna fish, chicken, ham, Spam)
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, mandarin oranges)
- Canned Pasta Meals
- Beef Stew, Chili, Pork n Beans
- Canned or Boxed Potatoes
- Canned or Dry Beans
- Tomato Products
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta Roni
- Rice A Roni
- Toilet Paper and Paper Towels



amazon

Order on AMAZON and deliver right to our door via our amazon list*:

<http://a.co/9YbUnas>

*Please note the list will be updated regularly - we have no brand preference

