



Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church

3600 Highway 601 South
Concord, NC 28025
704-782-2326



December 24, 2020

Christmas Eve

See us on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/D5N3UjT6Qv8>

Pastor Michael Frye, presiding

Interim Pastor

Pastor Michael Frye...Pastor@mounthermonchurch.org

Administrative Assistant

Linda Woodard... 704-782-2326...Admin@mounthermonchurch.org

MINISTRY LEADERS:

Keith Opel – President

Kitty Smith – Vice President

Valerie Frank – Secretary

Mark Jones – Treasurer

WORDS OF WELCOME

GREETING

P: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

C: O come let us adore him

P: May the light and peace of Christ be with you all:

C: And also with you.

The Gospel of Light: John 1:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Christmas Dialogue:

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

C: Amen

P: God speaks the Word; our hearts respond.

C: O Wisdom, come and make us wise!

P: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit.

C: O branch of Jesse, come; spring forth!

P: To us a child is born, to us a son is given.

C: O Sacred Lord, stretch out your arm!

P: His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

C: O King of Nations, come, and make us one!

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: O Sun of Righteousness, arise and shine!

P: Small as you are, O Bethlehem, out of you will come the one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

C: O Key of David, free us; come!

P: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Emmanuel.

C: Oh come, Oh come, Emmanuel!

P: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your beloved Son. Enter each waiting heart with cleansing love and fill our lips and lives with songs of praise to our approaching Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah **2**

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.

3You 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.

4For 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.

5For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

6For 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.
7His 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.
P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 96

¹O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
²**Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.**
³Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
⁴**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.**
⁵For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
⁶**Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**
⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.**

⁹Worship the LORD in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth.

¹⁰**Say among the nations, "The LORD is king!
The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.
He will judge the peoples with equity."**

¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

¹²**let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy**

¹³before the LORD; for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

A reading from Titus

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He 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.

P: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: Luke 2: 1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

14"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

15When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: Glory to you O Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Michael

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

R: Your mercy is great.

R: Amen.

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

It was in the distant past when darkness covered the earth and great darkness the people, that they who walked in darkness saw a great light.

It was God, the heavenly Father, who commanded the Light to shine out of darkness into our hearts, to give us the Light of knowledge of His glory in the face of Jesus Christ. The only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, said, **I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**, those that follow me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the Light of Life. He also said, "You are the Light of the World, let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

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.

THE PRAYER

O God, who has made this holy night to shine with the brightness of the Light of your Son, Jesus our Lord, grant, we pray you, that as we have known on earth the mysteries of that Light, we may also come to know the fullness of your eternal heaven, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord. **Amen**

BENEDICTION

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**The office will be closed until 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 28th.
If you need pastoral care, please contact Pastor Michael.
His phone number is in the version of the bulletin
you should have received in your email.**

**The Children's Ministry will be our format for the December 27th service.
There will be no bulletin published that day.**

Have a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas!