**LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS: SAVIOR, CHRIST, LORD- JANUARY 1, 2023**

**ZION, PHILIPSBURG**

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional territory of the Anishinabewaki, Mississauga’s, and Neutral peoples. We give thanks and honour to all the generations of Indigenous people who have taken care of this land. We recognize our need for stewardship and partnerships in renewing this great resource for generations to come.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome to worship on this 1st Sunday of Christmas , January 1, 2023. Happy New year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas shared with family and friends despite the weather.

Today’s service is a lessons and carols service full of the beloved carols we did not get to sing on Christmas Eve.

I ask that you keep the family of Edgar Snow in your prayers. Edgar was a close friend of my Mom, Doris and a friend of our family who passed away peacefully on Tuesday morning at Tillsonburg General Hospital. His funeral was held yesterday at Francis Funeral Home.

**WELCOME**

The angel said to [the shepherds], “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

As we gather we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem’s manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God’s forgiveness, grace, and love. *Silence is kept for reflection*

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

**Forgive our lack of faith and trust.**

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

**Forgive our neglect of the poor.**

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

**Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

With great joy the angels proclaimed, “Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

In ☩ Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God’s forgiveness is good news of great joy! **Amen.**

**GATHERING CAROL**- **Hark the Herald Angels Sing ELW 270**

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is Savior and Lord, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**CAROL**- **Angels We Have Heard On High ELW 289**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**PSALM 8- read responsively by whole verse**

1O  Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—  
 2**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in-fants and children;** **you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**  
 3When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
  the moon and the stars you have set **i**n their courses,  
 4**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,**  
  **human beings that you should care for them?**  
 5Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
  with glory and honor you crown them.  
 6**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;**  
  **you have put all things under their feet:**  
 7all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,  
 8**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,**  
  **and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**  
 9O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**“For unto you is born a *Savior*, who is Christ, the Lord”**

**LESSON:** Isaiah 12:2-6

2Surely God is my salvation, I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
 for the Lord GOD is my strength and my might;  he has become my salvation.  
3With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. 4And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;  
 make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.  
 5Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
 let this be known in all the earth.  
 6Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**RESPONSE**:  **O Come, All Ye Faithful  ELW 283**

**LESSON:** Matthew 1:18-21

18Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

**CAROL- Away in A Manger #278**

**“For unto you is born a Savior, who is *Christ*, the Lord”**

**LESSON:** Isaiah 61:1-3, 11

1The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me;  
 he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
 and release to the prisoners; 2to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
 and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;  
 3to provide for those who mourn in Zion — to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. 11For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  to spring up before all the nations

**RESPONSE:** **The First Noel #300**

**LESSON:** John 1:19-23, 29-34

19This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." 21And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." 22Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" 23He said,  
 "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,  
 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'"  
as the prophet Isaiah said.  
29The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' 31I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." 32And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

**CAROL:**  **What Child is This #296**

**“For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ, the *Lord*”**

**LESSON:** Isaiah 6:1-8

1In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. 2Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. 3And one called to another and said:  
 "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
 the whole earth is full of his glory."  
4The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. 5And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"  
6Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. 7The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." 8Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

**RESPONSE:**  **Angels From the Realms of Glory #275**

**LESSON:** Luke 1:26-35

26In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." 29But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32He 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. 33He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35The 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 will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

**CAROL- Silent Night #281**

**NICENE CREED (ELW P. 104)**

Together with the shole church , let us proclaim our faith

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,** **maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,** **eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God,** **begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father;** **through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary**

**and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again** **in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven** **and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\***

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

 With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ’s coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family. *A brief silence.*

Holy God, you have given the church the holy name of Jesus, and in him we are your beloved children. Unite us in mission through the power of his Spirit. Make us worthy of the name we bear, the name in which we pray. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Renewing God, restore your glory to the earth. Awaken humanity to our kinship with all living things that depend on your provision. Teach us to care for the earth and safeguard its treasures for those who come after us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, reconcile the nations. Lead those in conflict into negotiation, especially in areas of religious or ethnic strife. End acts of aggression and violence carried out in your name. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Delivering God, rescue our siblings in any danger, especially in communities where disaster and disease threaten. Move those in authority to respond with speed and compassion. We pray for the safety of first responders, health care workers, and all who protect us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Healing God, raise up any who are bowed down with illness or sorrow. Deepen our care and concern for one another. We lift to you all who are undergoing transition in relationships, occupation, living situation, or health condition Sarah, Anne, Chris, John, Vivian, Stuart, Edna, Susan, Marg, Marlene the family of Edgar Snow, our members in long term care Esther, Robert, Rob, and Evelyn, and those we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Saving God, redeem us and grant us eternal peace. We give thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in your undying love, especially Ruby Doering and Edgar Snow, made known to us in Jesus our Emmanuel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 106)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 112)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**CAROL- Go Tell It On The Mountain ELW 290**

**BLESSING**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph,

the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the everlasting peace of Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

**CAROL: Joy To The World #267**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve our Savior, Christ, and Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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