

**Union Evangelical Lutheran Church
First Sunday of Christmas
December 27th, 2020**

"Our Mission is to follow Jesus and serve as He would."

Welcome

Prelude - Appalachian Yuletide...arr. Dan Forrest

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Call to Worship

Sing praises to God on high, for glorious are God's works.

Sing praises to the ends of the earth.

Shout and sing for joy, O people of God,

For great is the Holy One in our midst,

Blessed is the One who comes to dwell among us.

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 the Messiah, the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest heaven,

And on earth peace among those whom he favors!

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Let us Pray: Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your

Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST COMING

*He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.*

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (ELW No.288, vss. 1,2,3)

Verse 1

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today!

Christ is born today!

Verse 2

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:

Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this!

Christ was born for this!

Verse 3

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save!

Christ was born to save!

*He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine.*

Angels, We Have Heard On High (ELW No. 289, vss. 1,2,3)

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Verse 2

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

*He did not wait till hearts were pure.
In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
he came, and his Light would not go out.*

O Little Town of Bethlehem (ELW No. 279, vss. 1,2,3,4)

Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

Verse 2

For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all the earth!

Verse 3

How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

Verse 4

O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Immanuel!

*He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (ELW No.270, vss. 1,2,3)

Verse 1

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Verse 2

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

Verse 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,

born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us
second birth. *Refrain*

*We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!* (Madeleine L'Engle)

PRAYERS

Nurturing God, remembering the exile of the holy family and Herod's slaughter of the children, we remember all who need our sustaining love. Hear our prayers for the church and the community in the world.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, help your church to better reveal the glory of your grace, love, and salvation. Bless all church leaders, with all that they need to proclaim your presence with us.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, grant rest and peace to fields and streams. Bless ecologists and all who work to restore and preserve all that you have made.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, send your spirit to guide those in power. Use world leaders to bring about your peace and justice for all people.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You who are our hope, fortify those who find themselves struggling with despair or anxiety. Help all people to see reasons to hope in the future.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Great physician, heal all who are in pain. Give insight and patience to all those who are working on treatments and cures for diseases.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Triune God, open our eyes to the needs of the people around us and help us to reach out to them in love and service.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the ages, we thank you for the saints who have gone before us. Use us, as you used them, to show your presence in the world.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that all people may hear together the song of joy, and find their homes in the garden of justice and hope, that we may experience the fullness of life, which is your will for all, in the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Who Would Send a Baby...Mary Kay Beall, arr. John Carter

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Gail Allison, Gail Lafferty, Lynne Banzhoff, Sherwood Geiger

Who would send a baby to heal a world in pain? Who would send a baby, a tiny child? When the world is crying for the Promised One, Who would send His only Son? Who would send a baby to light a world with love? Who would send a baby, a tiny child? When the world is hoping for the Promised One; Who would send His only Son? Who would choose a manger to cradle a King? Who would send angels to sing? Who would hang a star in the sky above to shine on the gift of His infinite love? Who would send a baby to bless a world with peace? Who would send a baby, a tiny child? When the world is yearning for the Promised One, Who would send His only begotten Son?

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this night † through the Word made flesh. Amen.

POSTLUDE - Carol of the Bells...arr. Mark Hayes

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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Week of December 27, 2020

Sunday Worship Services - will continue to be emailed to you every Sunday morning. Check out previous worship services or Wednesday devotions by going to our website: www.ulclv.org. Click on the blue button "Click here for Virtual Worship".

Listen to Worship Services on your Phone - Hearing Pastor Camp's weekly scripture reading and sermon is only a phone call away...just call 610-885-8237. This phone call is free and will allow those who do not have access to a computer to hear Pastor's weekly message. Check it out...Call 610-885-8237!

Drive Thru Communion –December 20th, January 3rd and January 17th Pastor Camp will offer Holy Communion. Come anytime between 11:00 AM to noon. Enter the parking lot and proceed to the covered entrance way. There Pastor will offer prayers, communion and a blessing. Communion will be served using individual sealed cups which include both the wafer and grape juice.

Drive-in church – will be held every Sunday. You will be able to stay in your car and tune your radio to our very own Union Lutheran FM radio "station", 94.3 FM, or you can simply open your window and listen live! Note if you have a larger vehicle, please be considerate of others and park your vehicle in the back or sides of the lot. If you prefer sitting outdoors, no problem, seating will be available in the parking lot. Please continue to bring your chairs and to wear your masks.

Christmas Eve Services – will be held at 3 pm, 8 pm & 11 pm. All services will be held outdoors in the parking lot by way of car parking and the 94.3 FM radio station.

Book Club Zoom - Hello, all Readers out there! I'm sure, like me, many of you have still been reading during these crazy months. Sadly, we had to abruptly stop book club back in March and I have really missed talking about books! I am hoping many of you feel the same way. I am proposing starting the Book Club again via Zoom in January 2021. We would begin where we left off by discussing the book Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng that was scheduled for March. To continue we will need to chose a new book to read as well as a date and time to discuss it. This will be the tricky part - When do we want to meet? For our first meeting I would like to schedule the Zoom for Sunday, January 10 @ 11:00 am. If you are interested in being a part of the group please e-mail me at bjsm2@ptd.net or call the church office. Happy Reading! Barb Mahoney

Lil Pantry – We are so blessed to be able to help our community by providing food in our Lil Pantry. It is being used heavily. How can you help? Either drop off your food donations directly to the Lil Pantry or mail a check to Union Lutheran Church. We will purchase food and restock.

Hunger Corner by Social Ministry - Northern Lehigh Food Bank and the Parkland Cares Pantry help to serve the food needs of our extended local communities. Since our building is currently closed, it is difficult to drop off food donations. Dianne Gillikin has volunteered her front porch as a drop off spot. Dianne and Carl live only a minute or two from the church at 5168 Stahley Dr. Schnecksville. Place your bags on their porch and Dianne will ensure that your donations get to the food banks.

You are welcome to join our Union Lutheran Family - All are welcome no matter if you are coming from a Lutheran background or another faith tradition. *We are so excited for the opportunity to have you join our ministries.* Becoming a part of our family is simple. Just contact Pastor Camp or the Church Office at [610-767-6884](tel:610-767-6884) or office@ulclv.org. Let us welcome you during one of our upcoming worship services.

Prayer Card Ministry - Patti Hoffman mails cards to all members of our church family who are on the prayer list. If you are adding a non-member to the prayer list, please provide their mailing address as well. We would love to mail them a card!

Clothing Donations - Place your gently used clothing, shoes, belts, hats, bedding, linens, towels, and drapes in a bag and place them in the COLLECTION BINS located in lower parking lot. Proceeds from the used clothing collection will continue to benefit our youth ministries!

Journeyman – meet on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 7 am. Ron Pugh sends a Zoom link the week prior. For access to the link and to participate Zoom, please call the church office 610-767-6884, email the church office at office@ulclv.org or email Ron at ronpugh@rcn.com.

Keeping in our prayers:

Kenny Muth, Scott Cummings, Judy Schild, Karen Mack, Alex Rebeck, Chuck Allison, Nancy Antram, Dottie Bealer, Richard Carlstrand, Bailey Cummings, Barry Fink, Bob Frey, Abby Graham, Jake Hammond, Linda Houser, Melissa Ludwig, Jeffrey Trapp.

Stacie Folk, daughter in law of Irene Folk

Luis Marmolejos- friend of Steve and Tammy Diamond who was recently diagnosed with bone cancer.

Barbara Fung, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

Tina Doll - undergoing cancer treatments

Charles Kopcho, treatment for mantle cell lymphoma.

We pray for our homebound members, members of our congregation and community who struggle with employment, people affected by the natural disasters and our service people.

We pray for the church Hope, Cherryville – The Rev. Jami L. Possinger.

Please contact Pastor Camp pastor@ulclv.org or the church office office@ulclv.org to share prayer concerns

Report of December 13, 2020

Weekly Offering: \$5.132	9am Outdoor Worship Attendance: 120
Vision 2020: \$2,150	Virtual Sunday Worship Attendance:57
	Drive Thru Communion: 17
	Virtual Wednesday Devotional Attendance:22
	Total Weekly Attendance: 216

Today's Worship Participants

Online Worship Readings	<i>Kim Kuhlman</i>
Music	Gail Allison, Gail Lafferty, Lynne Banzhoff, Sherwood Geiger

Join us this week...

Sun. 12/27	Outdoor Worship	9:00 am
	Virtual Worship	Online Link 9:00 am
	Children's Sunday School	Online Link 9:00 am
Sun. 1/3	Outdoor Worship	9:00 am
	Virtual Worship	Online Link 9:00 am
	Children's Sunday School	Online Link 9:00 am
	Happy Hour	Zoom Link 10:30 am

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078

610-767-6884 Church Office

Website: www.ulclv.org

email: office @ulclv.org

Facebook.com/ulclv

Miller-Keystone Blood Center #1258 - ULC

Staff	
Pastor	The Rev. Gordon A. Camp pastor@ulclv.org Cell 610-554-8061
Pastor Emeritus	The Rev. Dennis W. Moore
Asst. to the Pastor	Cathy C. Shaffer
Sexton	Terry P. Hoffman
Parish Nurses	Dorothy Bealer Jane Borbe
Director of Music	Susan Frickert
Asst. Office Administrator	Katie Stauter

Congregation Council Members			
Officers		Committee Liaisons	
President	David Geiger	Christian Education	Gail Lafferty
Vice President	Patty Hersh	Christian Life	Kim Kuhlman
Secretary	Kandy Lang	Fellowship	Brian Bucks
Treasurer	Cathy Shaffer	Finance	Jay Marakovits
		Library	Sally Grim
Union Board Representatives		Property	Vacant
President	Vacant	Social Ministry	Patty Hersh
Secretary	Kandy lang		Kandy Lang
Delegates	Lynne Banzhoff	Staff Support	Debra Grundstrom
	Patty Hersh	Worship and Music	Lynne Banzhoff