

Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church

A welcoming community of faith.

Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church is a congregation of both the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We began in 1992 with a vision for a new expression of the ELCA in Truckee and later joined with the PC (U.S.A.) to be the liturgical, eucharistic expression of Christ's church in Truckee, California.

We welcome everyone to worship with us as we live in God's amazing grace!

To our visitors and guests: We wish you a warm welcome and invite you to join us for our regular worship services and Sunday School on Sundays at 9:00 am. Childcare is provided. Please let us know how we can be of service to you.

Sheet music and large print bulletins are available at the entrance.

Assistive listening devices may be obtained from the person at the soundboard (rear of worship space).

Supervised childcare for infants is available in the nursery.

Restrooms are located past the front entrance, down the hall to the right.

Special thanks to members of the Truckee Tahoe Community Chorus for sharing their gift of music with us.

Pastor

Rev. Edward Hilton

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Parish Associate

Rev. Scott Trevithick

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Worship and Music Planner

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Sunday Worship Location:
Sierra Mountain Community Education Center
(formerly Sierra Mountain Middle School)
11603 Donner Pass Road, Truckee

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 24 2011

The pastor or worship leader will read the regular print text.

The congregation will read the **bold** text.

Please stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk *.

PREPARING TO ENCOUNTER GOD IN WORSHIP

We invite you to sing or listen as we quiet our minds to hear God's voice and open our hearts to feel his presence.

♪ "O Little Town of Bethlehem" - vs. 1,2,4

♪ "Christmas Offering"

♪ "Away in a Manger"

♪ "Angels We Have Heard On High"

WELCOME

* GATHERING SONG

♪ "Angels from the Realms of Glory" – vs. 1, 2, 4

* GREETING

Today Christ is born!

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

And also with you.

We worship in the name of the Triune God +,
the Maker of heaven and earth,
the Word made flesh,
the Lord and giver of life,
who is nearer than we can imagine,
larger than we hoped,
more forgiving than we deserve,
and more in love with us than we will ever understand.
Amen.

The true Light, which brings life to all, has come into the world.

Jesus, the very Son of God!

The word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Jesus, our Emmanuel!

To all who receive him, he gives power to become children of God.

Jesus, the Christ, our Savior is born!

We have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's only Son.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!

*** SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

All are invited to share a handshake or a hug as a sign of reconciliation and peace, saying "Peace be with you."

♪ **"Hark, The Herald Angels Sing"** – vs. 1,2

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE PROPHECY

Isaiah 9: 2-7

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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*** PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS**

♪ “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” – vs. 1,2

*** THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE**

Luke 2:1–20

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

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "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 the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON - "God...What Are You Doing?" (Isaiah 9: 2-7)

Silence for reflection on the word.

SONG IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

"Holy Child Within the Manger"

*** PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to sing for joy with the angels.

In the brightness of his life

cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty,

and hunger in the world.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.

Amen.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

In recognition that all that we have and all that we are come from God, we return a portion of our wealth for the Lord's work here and around the world, we offer our talents that he may use them for his purpose, and we dedicate our lives to serve God and our neighbors.

♪ "The Hands That First Held Mary's Child" by Thomas Troeger, Dan Forrest

*The hands that first held Mary's child were hard from working wood,
from boards they sawed and planed and filed and splinters they withstood.*

*This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail,
but cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail.*

*When Joseph marveled at the size of that small breathing frame,
and gazed upon those bright new eyes and spoke the infant's name,
the angel's words he once had dreamed poured down from heaven's height,
and like the host of stars that beamed, blessed earth with welcome light.*

*"This child shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne,
but God with us, Emmanuel, as close as blood and bone."*

*The tiny form in Joseph's palm confirmed what he had heard,
and from his heart rose hymns and psalms for heaven's human word.*

*The tools that Joseph laid aside a mob would later lift
and use with anger, fear and pride to crucify God's gift.
Let us, O Lord, not only hold the child who's born today,
but charge with faith may we be bold to follow in his way.*

*** PRESENTATION OF GIFTS, SONG OF THANKS**

♪ **"Bring We the Frankincense"**

CANDLELIGHT LITURGY

The Gospel According To John 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word,
and the word was with God,
and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

**All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.**

What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.

**The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

**He came as a witness to testify to the light,
so that all might believe through him.**

He himself was not the light,
but he came to testify to the light.

**The true light, which enlightens everyone,
was coming into the world.**

He was in the world,
and the world came into being through him;

yet the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own,
and his own people did not accept him.

**But to all who received him, who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God,
who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh
or of the will of man, but of God.**

And 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.

Let this flame represent the light of our Savior's love.

Receive its warmth, and let it grow bright in you.

Ushers will light a candle at the end of each row. As you pass the flame, please hold the lit candle upright and tip the unlit candle to receive the flame.

♪ “What Child Is This?”

♪ “Night of Silence”/“Silent Night”

*** BENEDICTION AND SENDING**

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
then the work of Christmas begins:

**to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all peoples,
to make music in the heart.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

*** SENDING SONG**

♪ “Joy to the World” – vs. 1,2,4

Please extinguish your candle by blowing gently. Be sure to hold it upright until the wax hardens and place it in the box by the exit door. Thank you!

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Christmas Prayer by Howard Thurman

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
then the work of Christmas begins:*

*to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all peoples,
to make music in the heart.*

Christmas Poinsettia Dedications

Thank you to all who helped to decorate our sanctuary with Christmas poinsettias. This is the time of year we remember those we love who are near or far.

Hilton Family	In memory of our grandparents
Retzlaff-Huggins Family	In memory of our parents, grandparents and in honor of new life
Lorelle Banzett	In memory of my parents
Judy Silar	In memory of loved ones that have passed
Darlene Frederick	In memory of my husband Bill
Sue Hartker	In memory of Rick – 46yrs married
Reynaud Family	Grandma Dellinger, Michael Ilgenfritz and Michael Ilgenfritz II and Leon Silar
Richards/Green Family	In memory of our parents
Carol and Tom Ryan	In memory of our parents
The Wright Family	In memory of the family that cannot be with us
The Holtebecks	In memory of Joan Holtebeck and Dick Riddle