

# Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church

*On a journey with God to Reach, Grow, and Serve*

TLPC 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 and grow with us as we live in God's amazing grace!

**To our visitors and guests:** Welcome! Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service, and let us know how we may serve 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.

**Sunday School** is offered for children age 3 through grade 8 following the opening liturgy. They will re-join us in worship for communion.

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

**Fair trade coffee and chocolate** are available at cost after the service.

**This Week at TLPC** (*See [www.tlpc.org](http://www.tlpc.org) for complete calendar of events.*)

## Friday

9:00am Hike/Snowshoe

### ***Pastor***

Rev. Edward Hilton

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### ***Parish Associate***

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## NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 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.*

♪ “Christmas Offering”

♪ “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child”

### WELCOME

### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

#### \* GATHERING SONG

♪ “O Come All Ye Faithful” – vs. 1,3,4

#### \* 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.**

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

**By day and night he shines for all to see.**

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

**so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Jesus is the light of the world.

**Jesus is the light of our lives.**

Sing to God a new song!

**A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

#### \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God of heaven and earth,

**you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—**

**a beam of light that shines through Jesus.**

**Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation.**

**Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life.  
Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world  
and in our hearts.**

**Amen.**

**\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the Word made flesh,  
the Lord and giver of life.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of glory, God of peace,  
**we confess that we have shunned the light  
that reveals the truth about us.**

**We cling to worldly things  
rather than sharing the gifts of this earth.**

**We trust ourselves above all.**

**Save your people, O God;  
sustain the rivers and trees that sing your praise;  
and free us to live boldly in the light and truth of Jesus, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

The grace of God shines upon us,  
bringing salvation to the whole world.  
We are saved, our sins are washed away,  
not because of anything we have done,  
but according to God's mercy in + Jesus Christ.  
Renewed by the Holy Spirit, let us live in hope and joy.

**Amen.**

**\* 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."*

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."  
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CAROL

**"Love Has Come"**

## SECOND READING

Psalm 98: 4-9

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.  
**Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.**  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.  
**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.**  
Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD,  
for he is coming to judge the earth.  
**He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.**

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CAROL**

**“Joy to the World”** – vs. 1,2,4

### **THIRD READING**

Hebrews 1: 1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
"You are my Son; today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire."

But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

And,

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,

and the heavens are the work of your hands;

they will perish, but you remain;

they will all wear out like clothing;

like a cloak you will roll them up,

and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same,

and your years will never end."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CAROL**

**“What Child Is This?”**

#### **FOURTH READING**

Luke 2: 1-7

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **CAROL**

**“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”**

#### **FIFTH READING**

Luke 2: 8-20

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 Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CAROL**

### **“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”**

#### **SIXTH READING**

Matthew 2: 1-11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CAROL**

### **“The First Noel”**

#### **\* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,  
and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence.*

For the increase of peace among the nations...

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ the Lord, bring peace on earth.**

For the unity of the whole church...

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ the Lord, bring renewal to the church.**

For the spread of the joyful news that the Savior has come...

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ the Lord, bring joy to the world.**

For the poor and those who find no room...

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ the Lord, bring help to the poor.**

For the lonely, the dispirited, the sick, the dying...

**Christ the Lord, bring wholeness to the broken.**

*Here individual prayers may be offered silently or aloud.*

For the light of Christmas to shine on us all...

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Christ the Lord, bring us the light of your truth.**

Rejoicing in your birth and trusting in your mercy, O Christ, Light of the world,  
we commend to your care all for whom we pray.

**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.*

## **\* PRESENTATION OF GIFTS, SONG OF THANKS**

♪ **"Bring We the Frankincense"**

### **\* PRAYER OF THANKS**

Good and loving God,

**we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,**

**who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.**

**As you have blessed us with your gifts,**

**let them be blessing for others.**

**With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,**

**we shout for joy at the coming of your Son,**

**Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

### **\* GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The pastor continues with the Eucharistic prayer, concluding:*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.; fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

\* ♪ **LORD'S PRAYER** (Tune "Away in a Manger")

## **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*We invite all members and visitors to share in Holy Communion, also known as the Lord's Supper, the Sacrament of the Altar, or the Eucharist. We believe that Jesus Christ is present in and with the bread and wine. We receive this sacrament in remembrance of what God has done for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. You may either eat the bread and drink from the common cup of wine (first chalice) or hold the bread and dip it in the grape juice (second chalice). Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Some people wish to receive communion every week, others less often. Please do what is meaningful and comfortable for you. If you prefer to receive communion while seated, please indicate this to an usher.*

## **COMMUNION SONGS**

♪ "Where Shepherds Lately Knelt"

♪ "Gloria, Gloria"

**\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Great and saving God,  
you have gathered your scattered people  
around gifts of grain and wine,  
the body and blood of our Savior Christ.  
As we, like the shepherds, return on our way,  
may we proclaim all we have heard and seen,  
praising you in word and loving deed  
for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

**\* SENDING SONG**

♪ “Go Tell It On the Mountain”

**PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD**

*We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church family, in our local community and throughout the world.*

**\* BENEDICTION AND SENDING**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!  
**Praise God, all creatures here below!**  
You are the shepherds telling the story.  
**We tell it in the streets and across the land.**  
You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.  
**We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.**  
You are the angels announcing peace.  
**We live with joy and go now in peace.**  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless us now and forever.  
Amen.

**\* POSTLUDE**

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