

Incarnation Lutheran Church
Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Eve
Online Worship
December 24th, 2020

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY

"Ding Dong Merrily on High"
The Palmetto Brass

GATHERING CAROL: ELW 283

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing! (*Refrain*)

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: (*Refrain*)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: (*Refrain*)

GREETING

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.**

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

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

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

²The 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.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 96

Mike Willhide, Cantor

Linda Cable Shute

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The 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.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 267

Joy to the World

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Before the Reading: The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.]

After the Reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CAROL: ELW 270

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

*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!"*

SERMON

Pastor Emily Willhide

CAROL: In Dulci Jubilo (Three variations for organ solo) Vincent Lubeck (1656-1740)

NICENE CREED

**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

*Each petition concludes "Hear us, O God." We respond: **Your mercy is great.***

The shepherds sing, "Jesus Christ is born!" Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news, over the hills and everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Heaven and nature sing, "Joy to the world!" Give respite to flocks, fields, and those who tend them. Come near to us in the beauty of nighttime, the shining of the stars, and the hush of a world at rest. May our wonder at your creation rouse our care for all the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The angels sing, "Peace on earth!" Come quickly to still the strife of this world. Hush the noise of war and violence in places of unrest. Inspire leaders of nations to seek lasting peace and sustainable provision for all in their care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Mary sings melodies of comfort to her newborn child. Bring rest and reassurance to those facing struggles this night. Shelter travelers and those without homes. Console those who lie awake due to pain or anxiety. Heal those who are sick or hurting. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Love sings through the sound of a new baby's cry. Bless new parents and expectant parents. Comfort those who long for children, especially those running out of hope or options. Surround families of every shape and size with your love and care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavenly chorus sings, "Glory to God in the highest!" We give you thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed your glory in word and deed. Let us join them this night in joyful praise around your eternal throne. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

SOLO

“Gesù Bambino”

Pietro Yon

Grace Sawicki, Soprano

OFFERTORY

A Carol Fantasy

Palmetto Brass

OFFERING PRAYER

God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The Lord be with you. **And al-so 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.*

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: ELW 108

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might:
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we will 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.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

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.

THE 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Word is revealed in a manger, in simple bread and wine.

Come meet Christ in this meal.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Prelude on "What Child is This?"

Janet Linker

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us from your very self
with the body and blood of Christ.
Through this mystery, send us forth

to proclaim your promise to a world in need,
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

CANDLELIGHTING

Silent 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,
heav'nly 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 your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

SENDING

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.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News that Christ is born.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Go Tell It on the Mountain



Announcements

Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday, December 27th via Facebook.

The Second Sunday of Christmas will be Sunday, January 3rd via Facebook. To begin our year of celebrating our 100th anniversary, we will welcome guest preacher, Pastor Rusty Kehl, and celebrate Pastor Emily Willhide's installation.

Faith Formation will be having an interest meeting on Sunday, January 17th.

December is Pledge Month: Please remember to turn in your pledge cards!

A time for Self-directed Worship will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11a.m. to 1 p.m. We ask that those who attend please wear a mask and remain socially distant from others.

Wednesdays at noon, Incarnation will be hosting a short devotional Bible study. Bible study will be held over Zoom and the office will email out the link for the meeting each Wednesday morning.

Do you want to join Incarnation? If so, please contact the office at office@incarnationlutheran.com so that we can gather your contact information and reach out to you.

Prayer List

Current: Ed Skinner, Lily Hoffman, Alex McArver, Ivey Smith, Diane Smith, Sam Hall, The Pratt Family, The Norton Family, The Family of Mary Thompson, The Family of Sara Carroll, The Family of Rylan Rogers, all those caring for elderly parents, and all those that are home bound.

Continuing: Thomas Ulmer, Jesse, Emily Prince, Emily Wright, Gary Todd, Linda Blazek, Maren Milbourne, Ann Ford, Judy Moody, and Jenny Gantt.

Military: Michael Willhide, Mike Turner, (Mavis Turner's son), Hilary Compton, (Kim Yerrick's niece), Tyler Owens, (Kim Yerrick's nephew).

Online Giving!

We look forward to the day when we can worship together as a family again, but until then, please continue to support the mission of the church. You can use this image below by scanning the QR Code with your smart phone's camera which will lead you to our Website for Online Giving or look for our new Paypal button on our Facebook page!

Incarnation Lutheran Church
in gloria, in medio, in mundo

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To Give online:
Focus your cell phone camera on the QR code below. An ILC banner will appear at the top of the screen. Press on the banner to continue to ILC ONLINE GIVING / OFFERING. Press on the banner to create a profile and / or Login to give.



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Incarnation Lutheran Church



Incarnation Lutheran Church Columbia, SC



South Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Lutheran Church of the Incarnation







3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

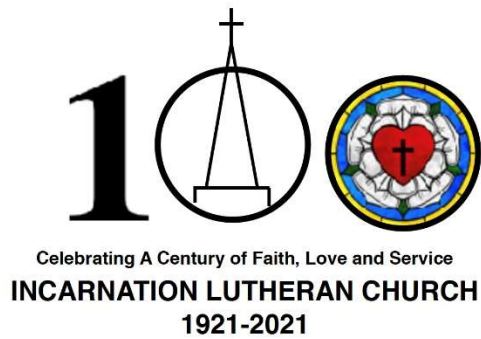
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<p>RFB </p> <p><i>Presents</i></p> <p>COFFEE WITH JESUS</p> <p>Something's Got to Give</p> 	 <p>I want to be able to hear your voice, Jesus.</p>	 <p>Then something's got to give, Kevin. You have screens in your face and noise in your ears all day, to the point that they put you to sleep at night.</p>	 <p>I hear ya. I'm distracted.</p> <p>How's 7:00 - 7:10 AM work for you, Jesus?</p>	 <p>I guess it's a start, Kevin.</p> <p>Good of you to squeeze me in.</p>
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Our 100th Anniversary Begins!

Kick-off to the Anniversary Year

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Rusty Kehl

Son of Incarnation

Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenwood, South Carolina

It's finally here! Incarnation's 100th Anniversary celebration will officially begin on Sunday, January 3, 2021 with Pastor Rusty Kehl as our guest preacher!

Rusty, the son of Mary Kehl and sister of Amy Kehl, grew up at Incarnation and spent his formative years here, where he was an active participant in church life. As an adult, Rusty became Scoutmaster of Incarnation's Troop 8 and he and his wife Dee Dee were involved in every ministry Incarnation had to offer.

Rusty answered a long-delayed call to ministry when he entered the Master of Divinity program at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, where he graduated in 2016. He was ordained a pastor and began serving Immanuel Lutheran Church, Greenwood, South Carolina. On January 17, 2021, he will begin a new ministry at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Florence, South Carolina.

We are delighted to welcome Rusty and Dee Dee Kehl home to inaugurate our anniversary year!

DON'T FORGET TO SHARE YOUR REINDEER NAME WITH US ON FACEBOOK!

WHAT'S YOUR **REINDEER** NAME?

First Letter Of Your First Name:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| A. COOKIE | J. SHIMMER | S. GRINCH |
| B. SUGAR-PLUM | K. PUDDING | T. TINSEL-CHEEKS |
| C. FROSTY | L. POINTY-TOES | U. McJINGLES |
| D. MISTLETOE | M. KRINGLE | V. SNOWMAN |
| E. SNOWFLAKE | N. DASHING | W. CINNAMON BUN |
| F. CRANBERRY | O. TURKEY-BELL | X. MERRY-MARY |
| G. PICKLE-PANTS | P. HONEY-HAM | Y. GLITTER |
| H. TWINKLE-NOSE | Q. PEPPERMINT | Z. RUDOLPH |
| I. EGGNOG | R. JOLLY-JOSEPH | |

Your Birth Month:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| JANUARY: LORD CRACKLE | JULY: ST. CANDY CANE |
| FEBRUARY: RAZZLE-DAZZLE | AUGUST: BON BON |
| MARCH: MAPLE | SEPTEMBER: LONG BEARD |
| APRIL: McMITTENS | OCTOBER: SNICKERDOODLE |
| MAY: ANGRY ELF | NOVEMBER: ARCTIC PUFFIN |
| JUNE: VON PRETZEL | DECEMBER: CLAUS |

