
We Are Sent with God's Blessing

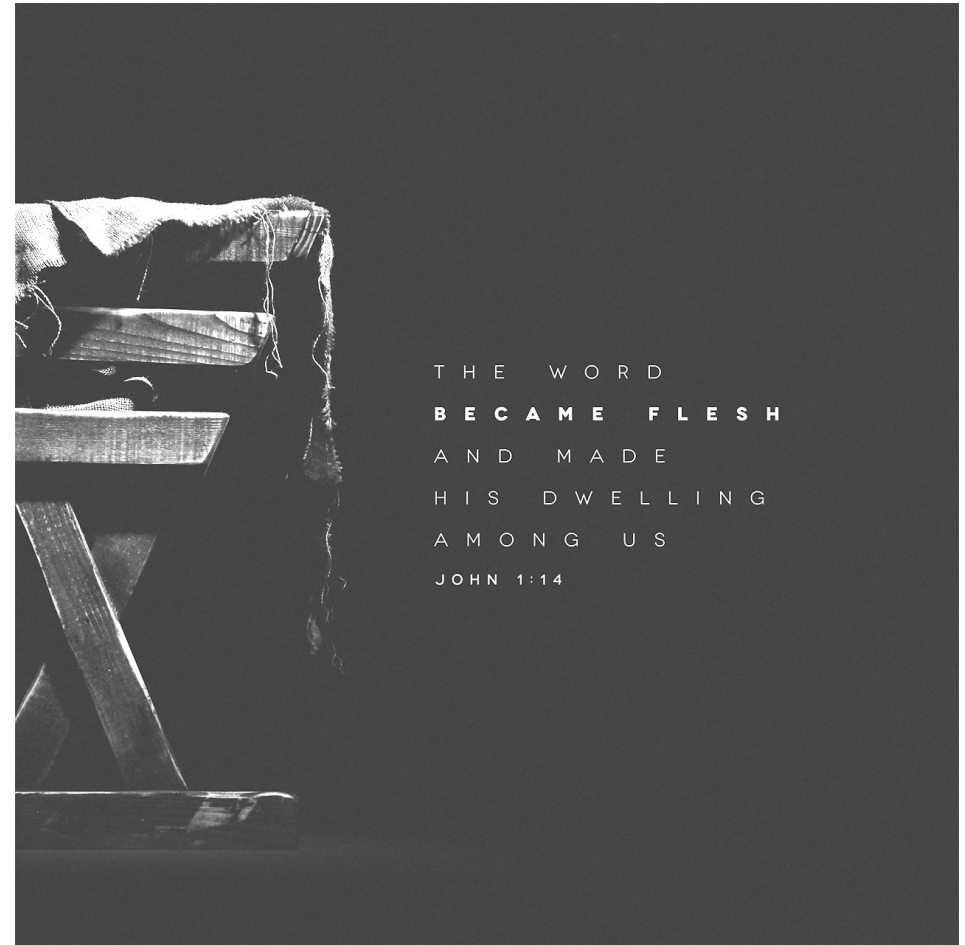
*Song: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" LUYH 93:1,2

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" LUYH 93:3

First Sunday After Christmas

December 30, 2018



Worship Participants

Pastor: Rev. Shirley Folkerts ♦ Piano: Jill Friend ♦ Viola: Derek Friend

Worship Leader: Sanneke Kok

Sound: Kayt Frisch ♦ Projection: Marty Vander Plaats ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

The Christmas season extends from December 25 through January 5 and includes at least one and usually two Sundays. Celebrating Christmas as a season helps us both to enter into the meaning of the incarnation more fully than celebrating a single day and to focus on additional scripture texts that explore the meaning of Christmas beyond the familiar words of Luke 2.

(taken from *The Worship Sourcebook*)

God Gathers Us for Worship

Welcome

*Call to Worship (based on Isaiah 9:2,6, John 1:4)

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.**

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In him was life, and that life was the light for all people.

Come, let us worship the God

Whose light brings hope to a weary world.

*Songs of Praise: “Here I Am to Worship”

LUYH 567

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

LUYH 81:1,2,5

*God Greet Us, We Greet One Another

*Song of Praise: “Holy Is Your Name”

**1. My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my Savior:
you have looked upon your servant, you have visited your people.**

Refrain:

**And holy is your name through all generations!
Everlasting is your mercy to the people you have chosen,
and holy is your name.**

**3. I proclaim the power of God, you do marvels for your servants;
Though you scatter the proud-hearted
and destroy the might of princes. (refrain)**

**5. In your love you now fulfill what you promised to your people.
I will praise you, Lord, my Savior, everlasting is your mercy. (refrain)**

Words: Luke 1:46-55, David Haas, Music: Irish Traditional, © 1989 GIA Publications, Inc.

We Are Renewed in God’s Grace

*Call to Confession: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

LUYH 88:3,4

Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you give us the greatest gift of all, yourself,
but often we find it hard to take notice;

we are caught up with our own gifts, given and received.

**Forgive us, generous God,
for the casual way we treat your gift of love.**

Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. Amen.

Song of Assurance: “On Christmas Night”

LUYH 89:2-4

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Children’s Blessing: “The Lord Is My Light”

LUYH 431:1

Children ages 3 years old through Kindergarten are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive a prayer of blessing before going downstairs to the Multi-Purpose Room for a time of worship designed especially for young children. Our young guests are welcome to participate in this service.

Scripture: Luke 2:41-52, Psalm 121

p.1592, 965

Sermon: “The Father’s Business, Now and Forevermore”

Rev. Shirley Folkerts

*Song of Response: “He Came Down”

**He came down that we may have hope*, (repeat 3x)
Hallelujah forevermore.**

***peace, life**

Text & Music: Cameroon traditional; tr. and arr. by John Bell,
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We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

Offertory Prayer and Offering of our Gifts

Each week at Covenant we receive a monetary offering to support the mission and ministry of the church. This morning’s offering will support the General Fund, which helps keep our church operating and pays for a wide range of denominational ministries.

We Share Our Joys & Concerns and Pray for Each Other