



HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL



Oakwood
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2023

WELCOME | TO OAKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are so glad you've joined us today! We pray that you see Jesus Christ glorified in our midst, and that you are led to glorify Him as well. As a church our vision, by God's grace, is to become "oaks of righteousness," growing roots deep in God's Word, bearing fruit of God-centered holiness and worship, and branching out with Gospel-centered witness and service to State College, Penn State, Central Pennsylvania, and the world.

Prelude

Rick Betts

Welcome

Rev. Ben Lee

The Nicene Creed

In Unison

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all worlds,
God from God, Light from Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven;
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended to heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And 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 together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Oakwood Choir*Angels from the Realms of Glory***Scripture Reading**

Bob Spooner

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Jo-seph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

SONG OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Public Domain. Words: Charles Wesley. Music: Rowland Prichard.

1. Come Thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the saints Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

2. Joy to those who long to see thee,
Day-spring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,
Of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing
News, glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to Him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

3. Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end;
By His life He brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder;
Christ was born the Lord of all.

4. Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

SONG OF PRAISE**O Come, All Ye Faithful**

Words: John F. Wade, circa 1743. Verses 1-3 & 6 translated from Latin to English by Frederick Oakeley, 1841; verses 4 & 5 translated by William T. Brooke (1848-1917). Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attributed variously to John Wade, John Reading, or Simao Portogallo.

1. 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.

2. God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God, Begotten, not created;

REFRAIN

3. Sing, choirs of angels;
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest;

REFRAIN

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Late in flesh appearing;

REFRAIN

Scripture Reading

Dylan Ewing

Luke 2:8-19

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

Oakwood Choir*Angels’ Carol***Scripture Reading**

Beth Gustafson

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Heidelberg Catechism Question & Answer 34-36

Leader: What does it mean that Jesus “was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary”?

God’s People: That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit, from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature so that he might also become David’s true descendant, like his brothers and sisters in every way except for sin.

Leader: How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?

God’s People: He is our mediator and, in God’s sight, he covers with his innocence and perfect holiness my sinfulness in which I was conceived.

Leader: Why do we call him “our Lord”?

God’s People: Because—not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood—he has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be his very own.

SONG OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard On High

Words: Traditional French carol (Les Anges dans Nos Campagnes); translated from French to English by James Chadwick in Crown of Jesus, 1862. Music: GLORIA (BARNES), French carol melody; arranged by Edwin S. Barnes. | CCLI License No. 478868

1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

CHORUS

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

CHORUS

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

CHORUS

THE WORD OF LIFE

Christmas Meditation

Rev. Ben Lee

Luke 2:1-7

SPECIAL MUSIC | CANDLE LIGHTING

Peace, Peace

Ladies Ensemble | Oakwood Choir

SONG OF PRAISE

Silent Night*

Public Domain. Author: Joseph Mohr; Translator (Sts. 1, 3): J. Freeman Young. Tune: STILLE NACHT.

1. 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.

2. Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heav'n afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia,
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

3. Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

4. Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend them light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Benediction

Rev. Ben Lee

DOXOLOGY

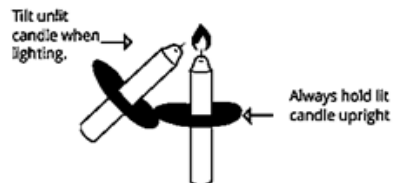
Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen, Amen.

Postlude

Rick Betts

LIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS

When lighting your candle, tilt the unlit candle toward the flame so the lit candle can remain upright. This will prevent wax burns and spills.





JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS

All are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings. We offer a traditional service at 8:30 am and a more contemporary service at 11:15 am with Sunday school for all ages from 10:00 am to 11:00 am during the school year. Go to oakwoodpca.org to find out more about Oakwood PCA.

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Sunday School for all ages!

Sundays @ 10-11am

No Sunday School Dec. 25 or Jan. 1

DON'T FORGET ABOUT OAKWOOD YOUTH MINISTRY!

All youth grades 6-12 are welcome!

Sundays @ 6-8pm

Meetings Resume Jan. 8, 2022



**Looking to get involved
with a community of
believers on campus?**

Contact Cam Smith:
cam.smith@ruf.org

Contact Richard Smith:
richard.smith@ruf.org for
RUF- International

HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

Please tear off this section, write your name on the other side,
and place it hand it to an usher.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

Please tear off this section, fill it out, and hand it to an usher.

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

EMAIL

PHONE

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

SPOUSE / CHILDREN'S NAMES

I WOULD LIKE TO:

- ☐ Become a member
- ☐ Be contacted by an Elder
- ☐ Join a small group
- ☐ Volunteer for:

- ☐ Receive the e-announcements
- ☐ Update my contact information

Have a prayer request?
Please write it on the other side.

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING AT OAKWOOD?

Learn about ministry events
going on throughout the week,
& learn more about our church online!

www.oakwoodpca.org

OAKWOOD CHURCH OFFICE

Need to get in touch with
us during the week?

OFFICE HOURS: M-F | 9-5PM

PHONE: 814.238.5442

EMAIL: churchoffice@oakwoodpca.org

ADDRESS: 1865 Waddle Rd.
State College, PA 16803



Oakwood
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH