# THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

December 29, 2013

11:00 a.m.

We believe that worship is essential to our faith. When we gather, we gather in the midst of God. His Spirit inspires us and directs our fellowship with each other and with Him. May you find the joy of God's love and

grace as we share this time together. We would also ask that in consideration of other worshipers, please turn off, or switch to silent mode, all paging and cellular devices. Hearing Assistance devices are available from any usher.

WELCOME TO WORSHIPERS and MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP	Go, Tell It on the Mountain	arr. Helvey		
INVOCATION		Mary Keltner		
CALL TO PRAISE Mary Keltner Arise, shine, for your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon us. Let us praise the Lord together. The sun shall no longer be our light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine upon us For the Lord will be our light, and our God will be our glory. The Lord will be our everlasting light, and our days of sorrow will end. Come let us sing to our light and salvation!				
*HYMN NO. 94	Angels, from the Realms of Glory	REGENT SQUARE		
CHILDREN'S TIME		Pastor		
MINISTRY OF GOD'S WOR	D Psalm 98; Titus 3:4-7	Christa Warise (pps. 426 & 845 in pew Bible)		
PASTORAL PRAYER		Christa Warise		
*HYMN NO. 85	The First Nowell	THE FIRST NOWELL		

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## OFFERTORY

\*DEDICATION OF GIFTS

Doxology

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

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

MEDITATION	In the First Light	Kauflin		
In the first light of the new day, no one knew He had arrived. Things continued as they had been,				
while the newborn softly cried. But the heavens, wrapped in wonder, knew the meaning of His birth.				
In the weakness of a baby, they knew God had come to earth.				
As His mother held Him closely, it was hard to understand				
that her Baby, not yet speaking, was the Word of God to man.				
He would tell them of His kingdom, but their hearts would not believe. They would hate Him,				
and in anger, they would nail Him to a tree.				
But the sadness would be broken as the Song of Life arose, as the firstborn of creation would ascend and take				
His throne. He had left it to redeem us, but before His life began, He knew He'd come back,				
not as a baby, but as the Lord of every man.				
Hear the angels as they're singing on the morning of His birth.				
But how much greater will our song be when He comes again to earth!				
SERMON	A Star, A Star	Ramon Smith		
	Matthew 2:1-12	(p. 681 in pew Bible)		

\*BENEDICTION

\*HYMN NO. 117

As With Gladness Men of Old

Pastor

ANTIOCH

DIX

RESPONSE	Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

#### Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing. And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the World

arr. Hughes

\*Those who are able are asked to stand.

All song texts used by permission, CCLI #2433318.

Nancy Hurst

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK**

<u>Today</u> 9:00 a.m. 9:45 11:00 <u>Monday</u> 7:00 p.m. <u>Wednesday</u>

Re:Creation Worship Service Sunday School Morning Worship

Boy Scout Troop 907

Office Closed

Thursday 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. 7:30 - 9:00 7:30 <u>Saturday</u> 7:00 a.m. 9:00 5:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Senior Boys Basketball Practice APB Rehearsal

Junior Boys Basketball Practice

A Men's Bible Study Baptist Men's Breakfast – Smith Hall Youth – Park it in Pfafftown

Worship Nursery Workers Today, 9:00: Carolyn Ely, Nancy Hurst, Terri Goodman, Carolyn Matthews, Bernice Hudspeth, Vickie Sprinkle, Jean Bumgardner, Sarah Hauser

Worship Nursery Workers Today, 11:00: Delane DeVine, Teresa Anthony, Kimi Taylor, Ashley Hohertz, Kelly McCrary, Jason McCrary, Charlie Jones, Anita Hatchett



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Christ is Born

Ministers Senior Pastor Associate Pastor of Students & Families Associate Pastor of Music & Education Minister of Senior Adults & Congregational Care Pastor Emeritus Church Organist Pianist Deacon of the Week All Believers Rev. Ramon E. Smith Rev. Jeff Allen Rev. Mary Keltner Rev. Christa Warise Dr. Charles D. Edwards Sheila Hutcherson Teresa Hill Nancy Hurst