

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The central miracle asserted by Christians is the Incarnation. They say that God became Man. Every other miracle prepares for this, or exhibits this, or results from this. (C.S. Lewis)

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship: *Based in Psalm 126*

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us!

People: And we are filled with joy!

Leader: Our God has turned our weeping into singing,

People: Our tears into songs of joy!

Leader: The Son of God was made flesh for us.

People: Glorify his name!

Leader: O Christ of God, come anew in our hearts this day,

People: And remain in us forever.

Greeting: *Based on Ruth 2.4*

Leader: The LORD be with you!

People: And also with you!

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* *Trinity Hymnal #195*

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel: *Isaiah 43.1b-3a*

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, you Savior.”

Confession of Sin

Comfort of the Gospel: *Isaiah 53.6*

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

God Consecrates Us by Praise, Pledge, and Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* *Trinity Hymnal #203*

Profession of Faith and Baptism: *T.C. Simpson*

Hymn of Reflection: Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor *Trinity Hymnal #230*

Advent Reading of Joy *Matthew 2.13-23*

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Hymn of Meditation: *Who Is This, So Weak and Helpless* *Trinity Hymnal #239*

Prayer of Intercession: *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 debts, as we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

**Children dismissed to Little Church*

God Counsels Us through His Word

Prayer of Illumination *Chalmers’ Collects*

Blessed Lord, who has caused all holy Scripture to be written for our learning; grant that we may hear them, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that by patience and comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture Reading: *Exodus 2.1-10*

Sermon: *Jesus Came as the Ultimate Moses*

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Profession of Faith: *Chalcedonian Definition*

Therefore, following the holy fathers, we all with one accord teach men to acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards his Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards his manhood; like us in all respects, apart from sin; as regards his Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards his manhood begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the Virgin, the God-bearer; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from earliest times spoke of him, and our Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us, and the creed of the fathers has handed down to us.

Hymn of Response: *Go Tell It on the Mountain* *Trinity Hymnal #224*

Benediction: *Numbers 6.24-26*

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.