**GATHERED FOR WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE, OPENING PRAYER, WELCOME, & ANNOUNCEMENT**

**WORSHIP IN SONG**

**HYMN:** #128 NCH “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**SONG:** “I Wonder as I Wander,” John Jacob Niles

**HYMN:** “Angels We Have Heard On High”

***Angels we have heard on high; Sweetly singing o'er the plains***

***And the mountains in reply; Echoing their joyous strains***

***Gloria in excelsis Deo***

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** (Responsive) by Lutheran Pastor Dan Smith at the Lutheran Church of the Incarnation in Davis, CA

One: Merciful Creator,

All: **We confess to you our blindness to your presence in creation, and our disregard for the creatures of this planet, including trees. Our human hearts are set on personal gain and material wealth, and our drive for more has caused great damage. Forgive us our sins against your beloved creatures and empower us to walk humbly with you and with one another. Reconnect us with the web of creation and lead us to the community you envision for us, the creatures of your beloved Planet Earth. Amen.**

One: God our Creator is merciful, and forgives our sins, for the sake of the one who became flesh and dwelt among us (cross), Jesus Christ our Lord. God gives us new hearts to bear Christ’s love to all inhabitants of the earth, and to advocate for their protection and well-being.

All: **Amen.**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PASSING OF PEACE**

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**PSALM 91:1-6, 14-15**  1 You who live in the shelter of the Most High,

who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,\* 2 will say to the Lord, ‘My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.’ 3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler

and from the deadly pestilence; 4 he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. 5 You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day, 6 or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday. 14 Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. 15 When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honour them.

**HEBREWS 2:10-18** 10 It was fitting that God,\* for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father.\* For this reason Jesus\* is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters,\* 12saying, ‘I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,\*

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.’ 13And again, ‘I will put my trust in him.’ And again, ‘Here am I and the children whom God has given me.’

14 Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. 16For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. 17Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters\* in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. 18Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

**SERMON**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**\*HYMN:** #151 NCH *‘Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”*

**JOYS & CONCERNS, PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH, LORD’S PRAYER**

Lord, in your mercy… **Hear our prayers.**

**OFFERING:** Thank you for [supporting our ministries!](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=DGA6YBE6Q8RX2&source=url)



**SENT TO SERVE**

**SONG:** *“Sing We the Song of Emmanuel”*[1]

Verse 1: **Sing we the song of Emmanuel; This the Christ who was long foretold; Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem; Promise of dawn now our eyes behold**

Chorus 1: **God Most High in a manger laid; Lift your voices and now proclaim; Great and glorious Love has come to us; Join now with the hosts of heaven**

Verse 2: **Come we to welcome Emmanuel; King who came with no crown or throne; Helpless He lay the Invincible; Maker of Mary now Mary’s son**

Chorus 2: **O what wisdom to save us all; Shepherds sages before Him fall; Grace and majesty what humility; Come on bended knee adore Him**

Verse 3: **Go spread the news of Emmanuel; Joy and peace for the weary heart; Lift up your heads for your King has come; Sing for the Light overwhelms the dark**

Chorus 3: **Glory shining for all to see; Hope alive let the gospel ring; God has made a way; He will have the praise; Tell the world His name is Jesus**

[1] CCLI Song # 7078042 Getty et. al © 2015 Getty Music Hymns and Songs License # 11353163

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**PRAYER LIST**

*To add to our prayer list please email Pastor Tim with a brief description of your prayer. Please indicate if you would like the prayer to be listed on an ongoing basis.* [tim.hare@trumbullcc.org](mailto:tim.hare@trumbullcc.org).

~Douglas Mihalko, Karolina Szabo’s son’s brother-in-law, diagnosed with cancer

~Rev. Clayton Miller, Pastor Tim’s friend and mentor, at home with health concerns

~Alex Kitchener, baby Clark, and the Kitchener family

~Eric Farrell who struggles with his dialysis treatments while continuing his search for

a live kidney donor: learn more at ynhh.org/organdonation or 866-925-3897.

~Lauren Magnuson whose nephew, Michael Christian Eiby Corwel, and niece, Lara

   Edmondson, are both struggling with health issues.

~Linda Trefz recovering from hip surgery.

~Michelle Consolati, continued healing from surgery

~Herb Gratrix, recovering from a fall

~Lori Patrice Murray as she continues her courageous battle going through

Treatments for cancer. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

~Muirgheal Coffin, prayers for continued good health as she struggles with Epilepsy

~Ilana Ofgang, health concerns

~Lisa Gruttadauria, recovering from surgery

~ Rose Heiser, Angela Hare’s mother, struggling with health concerns

~ Caroly and Bruce Gibson to the prayer list for health concerns

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**THANK YOU!: A very heartfelt Thank You from the staff to the members and friends of TCC for your very generous Christmas gifts. Your support and encouragement make being in ministry with you a joy. We look forward to lots of good stuff to come in 2023. Happy New Year!**

**HOUSE CHURCH: Join us on Jan. 4 at 7pm at Barbara DeAngelo's place for fellowship, bible discussion, prayer and Communion! Please RSVP to tim.hare@trumbullcc.org.**

**GOVERNING BOARD: Jan. 10 at 7pm.**

**Valentine's Concert and Gift Basket Raffle: Save the date for a lovely evening of music and fun: Feb. 5, 4 pm.**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Please feel free to reach out to Lisa – Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9am-12pm at

203-268-2433 or at [office@trumbullcc.org](mailto:office@trumbullcc.org) **Pastor Tim will be on vacation following the service on Dec. 25 until January 2, 2023.  For emergency pastoral care please call Rev. Kathleen Mills at 207-213-3576 or Rev. Todd Shipley at 203-435-8873.**

