



**CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH OF DOVER PA**



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Rev. John M. Woods, Pastor

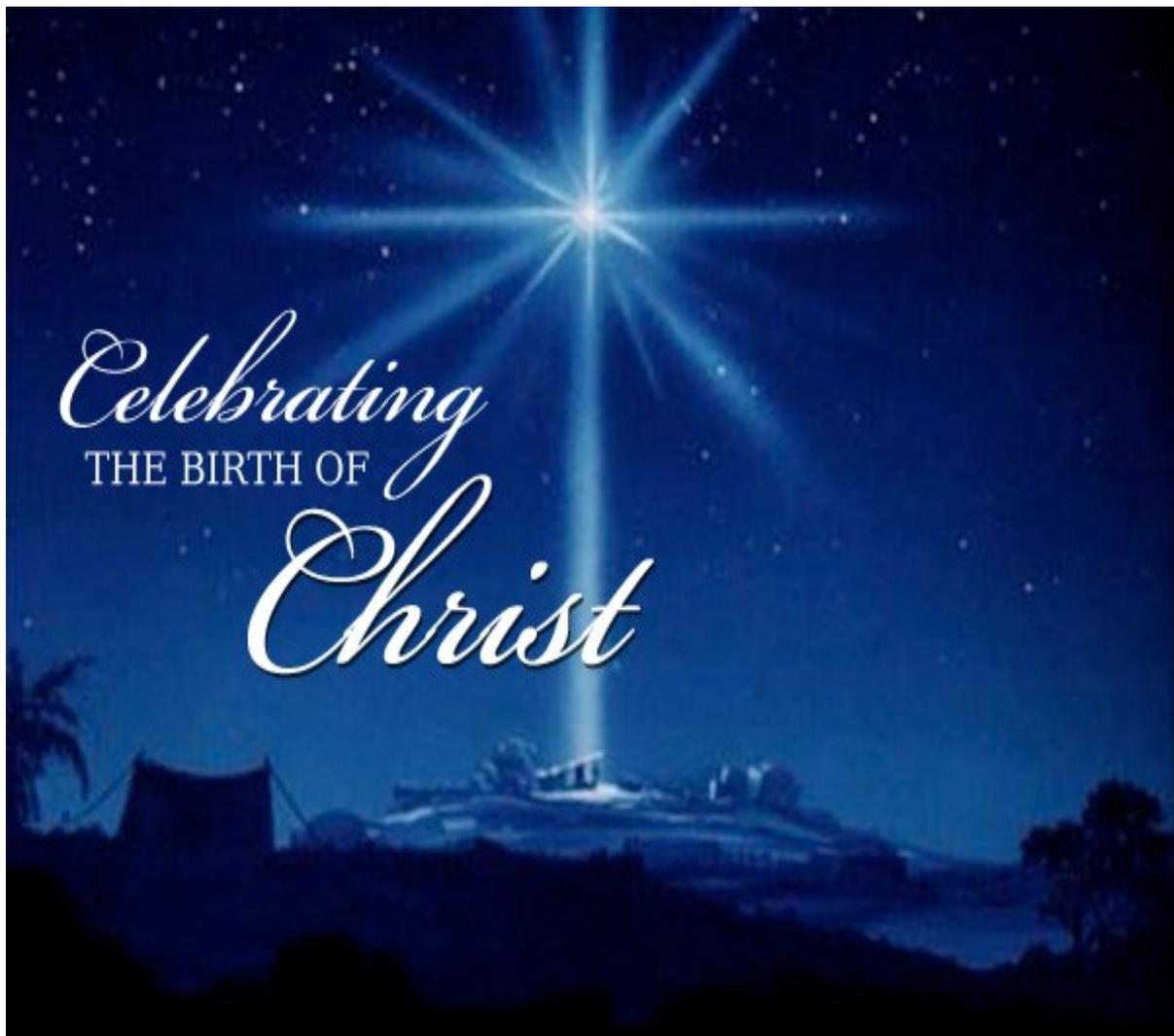
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December 24, 2015

7:00 PM

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## **Christmas Eve At Calvary**



**CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH of DOVER PA**  
**Christmas Eve at Calvary**

**Prelude** “Christmastime” - Jennifer McCleary & Richard Tilley

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rejoice, for God is with us- Emmanuel

**In the darkness of our world shines God’s holy light.**

Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live.

**God is truly with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

**\*HYMN:** “O Come, All Ye Faithful “ - ELW #283

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious God, **With joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ’s birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time. Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors.” This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.**

**The Prophecy of the Messiah** - Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

2 **\*HYMN:** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” - ELW # 257 Verse 1

### **The Announcement of the Coming of Jesus      Luke 1:26-35, 38**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>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 ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God.

<sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

### **"Gentle Mary Chosen One" - Kid's Choir**

### **The Birth of Jesus the Messiah      Matthew 1:18-23**

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

### **The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus      Luke 2:1-5**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered.<sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

**HYMN: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” - ELW #279 Verse 1**

**The Birth of Jesus Luke 2:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**HYMN: Away in a Manger - ELW #277 Verse 1      Kid’s Choir only**  
**Verses. 2-3 Congregation**

**“O Holy Night” - Jennifer McCleary**

**The Shepherds and the Angels Luke 2:8-14**

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

**HYMN: “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” - ELW #282 Verse 1**

**“The First Noel” - Kid’s Choir**

**Luke 2:15**

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

**HYMN: "The First Noel " - ELW #300 Verse 2**

**Luke 2:16-20**

<sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**"It's Christmas Time" - from *City on a Hill* - Cross Roads**

**"Go Tell It on the Mountain"- Kid's Choir**

**Passing of the peace and telling of the good news.**

**We Offer Our Gifts to God - Offering**

**Offertory HYMN "What Child Is This?" - ELW #296**

**\*(Unison) The Offertory Prayer**

Let us pray together... **God, accept and bless these gifts. We offer all that we have to be used in the work of your kingdom. We offer all that we ever hope to be to be used for your purposes. May these gifts be used to comfort, heal, and bless all who are in need of your hope today in Jesus' name. Amen!**

**\*(Unison) The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*Communion - Christmas Selections , Suzanne Tilley-Piano**

**\*Communion Prayer**

We are filled with joy for we have heard good news of great joy. We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God's great love. We are filled with hope for the angels still sing in our world and there is a Light for us to follow. **Amen**

**\*The Passing of the Light**

**\*HYMN: "Silent Night" - ELW #281 Verses 1-3**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Closing HYMN: "Joy to the World" - ELW #267**

**Kids Choir- Angels & Shepherds**

Caitlyn Larid

## **Special thanks to ...**

Kaidence Smith  
Willow Smith  
Eden Smith  
Nena Menard  
Evelyn Hoffheins  
Eleanor Callaghan  
Lila Callaghan  
Sierra McCleary  
Sydney McCleary  
Blake Myers  
Lucas Myers

### **Mary**

Lindsey Markle

### **Joseph**

Chris Woods

### **Shepherds**

Nicole Egan  
Kenny Laird  
Nash Menard  
Elliott Marsden  
Marissa Schrum

### **Readers & Communion helpers**

Tanner Markle

Emma Woods  
Rachel Tschopp  
Rebecca Tschopp

**Costumes**- Linda Alley & Karen Latshaw

**Manger scene**- Mel Sharp & Dean Laird

**Slide Show**- Walt Tilley

**Lights**- Joe Compton

**Candles**-

**Flute**- Jenni Melhorn

**Trumpet**- Richard Tilley

**Clarinet**- Tim McCleary

**With A Special Appearance By-**

Praise Band, CROSSROADS

### **Producers/Directors-**

Jennifer McCleary

Suzanne Tilley



**WELCOME!** We welcome everyone to our Christmas Eve Service as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Savior!

**TONIGHT'S SPONSORSHIPS**

The altar flowers are sponsored In Celebration Of Our Wedding Anniversary by Dave and Janet Quickel.

The Bulletins are sponsored  
with a Merry Christmas Wish for All  
By Ruthanna Heiner

**TONIGHT'S WORSHIP DUTIES**

Greeters:  
Ushers: Alan Reigart, Cheryl Reigart,  
Lindsey Markle, Emma Woods  
Acolyte: Caitlyn Laird  
Altar Guild: Trena Hall  
Communion Elements: Shirley Crone  
Worship Assistant:  
Offering Tellers:

**COMMUNION** We invite all baptized believers in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior to commune with us this evening. *Those unable to come forward for the sacrament, please bring this to an usher's attention and communion will be brought to you.*

**MISSION STATEMENT** We at Calvary believe God wants our congregation to exist in order to reflect God's love through our actions, programs and image; to reach out to our family, the community and the world; to provide moral and spiritual leadership. We are called to grow and adjust with the times to make the Gospel relevant for contemporary society.

**We Invite You To Join Us:**

Sundays, 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service  
Sundays, 10:00 AM Sunday School  
Sundays, 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
  
Friday, January 1, 2016 11AM-2PM Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner

Merry Christmas