

Chatham Community Church
8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship

December 24th, 2017

Leader: He will establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time onward and forever of the Lord of hosts will do this.

People: **I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock, my take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

SCRIPTURE READING

OPENING HYMN *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: 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.

People: **The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: 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.

People: **Let me hear what the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.**

Leader: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

People: **I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Siman Family
Luke 1:26-38
God of mystery, God of revelation, God of joyful sorrow with the simplest wonder at the foot of a manger bed, Spirit so that our joy may be received as true worship of Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN OF HOPE *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

SCRIPTURE READING

HYMN OF PEACE *Away in a Manger*

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS *(tonight's offering to our missionaries to the Larry Acton mission site in Rio)*

*DOXOLOGY

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SPECIAL MUSIC *Rock-a-Bye, My Dear Little Boy*

SCRIPTURE READING

MESSAGE

All

HOLY COMMUNION *All are welcome to receive*

HYMN OF LIGHT

Silent Night, Holy Night

Please tip unlit candles for lighting. Keep lit candles upright.

Please stand for the final verse of Silent Night

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE (verse 1) *Joy to the World*

POSTLUDE



In Service to God and the Church

astor: Patty Humphress
shers: The Siman Family
ccompanist: Karen Geisinger

Please keep Laura Auble, Jacci Orosz, and Howard and Patty Humphress in your prayers, as well as the rest of the mission team (15 in all) from East Ohio as they travel tomorrow to Rio Bravo, Mexico to build small houses for those who do not have.

#186 *Figures for December 24, 2017*

Luke 1:26-38

⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was in the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he greeted her, saying, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the one to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the first of her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible for God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all people should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, who was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ 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: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ¹⁵ 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.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.