

Welcome to worship at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Service of Lessons and Carols
December 25, 2022



As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God."

O come, let us adore!

**The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor
Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry**

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

**All worship can be viewed online at
newhanoverlutheran.org,
facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch
and on YouTube.**

**May your worship experience strengthen you
with God's love and grace.**

Welcome

Gathering Song *Angels We Have Heard on High* ELW #289

Dialogue

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 9:2-7 *God promises a king*

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.

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the trampling warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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.

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW #272

Micah 5:2-5a *The king will come from Bethlehem*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Carol

Away in a Manger

ELW #277

Luke 1:26-35, 38 *The annunciation to Mary*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him

Jesus. 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” 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.

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.

Carol *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* ELW #282

Luke 2:1-7 *The birth of Jesus*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.

Carol *The First Noel* ELW #300

Luke 2:8-16 *The shepherds go to see the Savior*

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,

praising God and saying,
“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”
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.”
So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child
lying in the manger.

Carol

In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW #294

John 1:1-14 *The mystery of the incarnation*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and
the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things
came into being through him, and without him not one thing came
into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life
was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the
darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came
as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through
him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the
light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into
the world.

He was in the world, and the world come into being through him;
yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and
his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him,
who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of
God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of
the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen
his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and
truth.

Carol

Of the Father’s Love Begotten

ELW #295

Responsive Prayer

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the determination of the magi,
and the peace of the Christ child.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* ELW #270

Dismissal

Go in peace, the Savior reigns!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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Announcements

Sound and video assistants needed for worship broadcast and live stream video. Training will be provided. For more information or to sign up, contact Pastor Scott at pastor@newhanoverlutheran.org or (610) 326-1335 ext. 1.

Sponsors are needed. Suggested donation for the bulletin is \$20 and flowers is \$35. Or, sponsor the *Word in Season* for \$35 a month. Contact Church Office Manager Susan Gutshall at (610) 326-1335 for available dates and to sign up.

Help avoid conflicts. Since activities at the church are back to normal, check in with staff before scheduling an event to be held at the church.

Susan Gutshall, Office Manager, will be on personal leave from Oct 3rd until further notice. Please send messages as usual to her email and voice mail. Volunteers and staff are monitoring correspondence at susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org, and 610 326-1335.

Office hours will be modified to a Monday through Friday mornings from 9 AM to 12:00 PM, Monday afternoon from 1:30 to 3 PM, and Thursday Afternoon from 1 to 4 PM.

Announcements for the bulletin are due Mondays by noon.

Appointments for facility access and meeting with staff are strongly recommended.

Peace and keep Susan in your prayers.

Today

The flowers are presented to the glory of God and for everyone in our congregation, enjoy the meaning and peacefulness of Christmas by the Phillips Family.

The Christmas trees decorating the altar are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marcia Renninger-Dey by Jean Renninger and Keith and Jeff Renninger.

Serving Today Head Usher: Steve Weidner; Usher: Faye Weidner; Lectors: Faye Weidner, Barb Noecker, and Lee Wesner; Acolyte: Faye Weidner

Next Sunday Head Usher: Scott Geiser; Usher: Georgeann Geiser; Lectors: Harry White, Nancy White, and Carolyn Fleming; Acolyte: Norm Hunsberger

Altar Guild Serving this Month Barbara Eisenhart, Debbie Solazzo, Marsha Staub

2022 Poinsettia Sponsors

In memory of Jackie Boyer by the James Boyer family

In memory of Jean Boyer by her family

In memory of her husband, Herbert, by Janet Burkhart



In memory of Ralph and Ruth Wirt by the Carl Eisenhart family

In memory of Charles and Helen Eisenhart by their children

In memory of her husband George Estes, her brother Paul Pickles, and her sister Joan Interrante by Carol Estes

In memory of Roy Fleming, Lloyd and Marianne Anstey, Walter and Marie Harbeck, Alfred and Fannie Anstey by Carolyn Fleming

In memory of Larry Gallagher by his wife, Becky

In memory of Lillian and Ralph Freed and Joyce and Donald Gallagher by Becky Gallagher

In memory of Frederick Johnson by his wife, Jane Johnson

In memory of John Karns by his family

In memory of John and Alice Rhoads by Jim and Mary Alice Mack

In honor of Linda Adams by Isaiah, Emma, and Faith Broyan

In memory of Charles and Lois Rhoads by the Mack and Rhoads families

In memory of their parents, Charles and Catharine Renninger and Tom and Pat McHugh, by Tom and Jayne McHugh

In honor of their family, Matthew, Amanda, Michael, Ginie, Benjamin, and Jackson by Tom and Jayne McHugh

In memory of Lawrence and Nancy Moser, and in honor of their children and granddaughter by Charlie and Donna Kehs

In memory of their parents, Earl and Iva Kulp and Chester and Helen Moser, by Gary and Jean Moser

In memory of Larry T. Gallagher and in honor of Becky Gallagher by Ben, Donie and Sam Mosser

In memory of their parents and brother by Lincoln and Barbara Noecker

In memory of Larry Peto by Yvonne, Candis, Lauren, Kyle, Kailey, and AJ

In memory of their parents and in honor of their family by Doug and Bette Senne

In honor of their grandchildren, Ava, Knox, Dylan, and Finn, by Rick and Debbie Solazzo

In memory of her grandson, Steve, by Vivian Specca and family

In memory of Donald, Arlene and Laura Wise, Raymond and Betty Latshaw, and in honor of the season of Christmas by Jeff and Sharon Wise

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. R. Leland Wesner, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Kenward Kissinger by Lee and Sandy Wesner

In memory of her parents and in-laws, sister, brother and in-laws, her prior pets, and in honor of her pet cat Ellie Mae by Nancy Wolfe



Calendar

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online

Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary

Boy Scouts – Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, room 1

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen

Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 2:00 PM, portico

12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32

Cub Pack Committee – Wednesday, 7:00 PM, room 33

Thursdays at Ten – Thursday, 10:00 AM, room 33

Scout Sleepover – Saturday, 7:00PM – 9:00AM Sunday, room 1

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM sanctuary and online

Upcoming Events

Constant Contact is a weekly email offering events and worship news. Did you get an email from Constant Contact this week? If not, don't miss out! Sign up by calling the church at (610) 326 1335 or emailing cc-admin@newhanoverlutheran.org.

Politics and Religion Bible Study - Sundays at 10:15 AM in room 33. Now that I got your attention. Join me for a weekly public forum of how we as a people can share the wisdom of the Bible to create an atmosphere where listening, loving and helping one another is a priority, and power and dominance are not a platform for public forums and discussions.

The Readings and discussions will be posted on our website, and printed copies will be available each Sunday in Room 33 at 10:15 AM.

Choir Rehearsals: Chancel Choir rehearses Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:15 PM in the choir room (room 15). **Children's Choir** rehearses Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:00 PM in the choir room. Interested in joining the Chancel Choir or Children's Choir? Contact Director of Music Ministry Patricia Nyce for more information. **Handbell Choir** rehearses on Thursdays, 6:15 – 7:30 PM in the choir room. For more information about the bell choir program, contact Handbell Choir Director Barb Eisenhart.

Thursdays at Ten, our midweek adult faith formation gathering, meets each Thursday from 10 - 11:30 AM in room 33. This informal discussion/study group will explore "**Fierce Women of the Bible.**" There were some sassy women back then! Both women and men are invited to journey back to biblical times to learn more about these "lasses" and how some things haven't changed. Look for more course details in the newsletter. Contact Deacon Carol with any questions. And feel free to bring a friend! Newcomers always welcome! Class will resume January 5.

We're extending the holiday season! **Our Seniors Ministry Christmas Luncheon and Program is now our "Winter Luncheon"** and has been rescheduled to **Thursday, January 12**, at noon. We will still celebrate the recent season with "The Carols of Christmas". Joining us will be our former Director of Music

Priscilla Landis to lead us in a festive time of carol singing and a sharing of the background of some of our beloved Christmas carols. We'll begin with a delicious lunch of homemade soup and sandwiches prepared by Chef Chris. We are asking folks to bring a dessert treat to share (maybe leftover Christmas cookies?). A new sign-up sheet will be placed on the desk in the Welcome Center. To help with meal planning **please RSVP by Friday, January 6.** Or you can contact Deacon Carol at cdetweiler01@comcast.net. And bring a friend or two!

You Can Help

NHELC will be collecting non-perishable items throughout the months of December, January, and February. Donations will be distributed through the Pottstown Cluster. Collection boxes are located in the welcome center and the fellowship hall for the donations. During the winter months there is an increased need for soup and crackers. Thank you for your contributions to help those in need.

Please consider **donating 2023 calendars** to be distributed to the inmates at the Phoenix (formerly Graterford) Prison. Please drop off your calendars in the box provided in the Welcome Center. These calendars are a much-appreciated gift enjoyed by the inmates.

Looking for volunteers to help during the church service : Ushers, Lectors, Children's Sermons, and Acolytes. Please contact Faye Weidner if you are interested in serving at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958

A Capital Funds Campaign is underway. Help NHELC raise \$247,500 for the HVAC and AVEL systems. Specially marked envelopes are available on the desk in the welcome center for your contribution. For more information, contact the church office at (610) 326-1335.

Food Ministry

More than 100,000 meals have been delivered! NHELC's Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1) You can donate food. Drop off your

donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs. 2) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards, place monetary donations in the offering plate or mail to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at <https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/>.

Spiritual Renewal

The *Word in Season* daily devotion books January - March are available in the welcome center and information box located outside by the Sunday school doors. Sponsors are needed.

Do you know someone who could use a **prayer shawl** to help bring comfort, healing and good thoughts? If so contact Deacon Carol or Pastor Scott and they'll see that one is made available. And...**please prayerfully consider:** the requests for our prayer shawls keep coming in. To make sure we will always have a shawl available when needed we could use some additional knitters to help with this important ministry. Please contact Deacon Carol if interested in doing this. Supplies and instructions are available in the library located off of Fellowship Hall, in a bookcase close to the door.

Need a prayer lifted up? The **NHELCC Prayer Chain Ministry** is here for you. All information remains confidential. To request a prayer, contact Deacon Carol at cdetweiler01@comcast.net or call the church office (610-326-1335) to leave her a voice mail. Your prayers will be delivered! Also, you can contact Deacon Carol to update circumstances or have a name removed from the Prayer Chain.

Prayer Warriors Wanted You are invited to join the warriors on Monday at 1:15 PM in the sanctuary. Participants join in a brief devotion and then pray together. They give thanks and then lift up in prayers neighbors both near and far. See Donna Kehs or Marsha Staub if you have any questions.

A **Seniors Suggestion Box** is now available on the desk in the Welcome Center. NHELCSeniors (folks in their 60's on up) are invited to use the slips provided and write down any ideas, concerns, needs they may have for our Senior's Ministry. Can be anything ranging from speakers/topics, fun events, faith formation needs, etc. We want to hear from you!

Thank you

Dear Pastor Scott, my name is Joe & on behalf of my 12 roommates we thank you & your staff for the food donations! Your chef, your wife, yourself & volunteers put a lot of thought & care in making our lives easier! It's nice to have a home cooked meal & not worry where our next meal is coming from. Thank you we all appreciate it. God bless you & your family.

Remember in your prayers

Requests

Trevor Martin, Toni Rath, Katy Mahon-Miller, Matt Hall, Luann Hanley, Scot Smale, Carol Estes, William Trotter, Kathy Kane, Maxwell Girard, Pat Fryer, Jean Renninger, Kathy Campos, Pr. Kork Moyer, Betty Lou Shadle, Julia Hauck, Tony Mancini, Raul Castro, Amy LeVan, Jeffrey Kunsch, Braydon Kline, Edwin Sugita, Wilma Lahr, Robert Tadley, Jim Price, Melissa, Bernadette Phillips, Mary Lou, Doug Weaver, Joan Wagner, Robert Ganovsky, Dorothy Bingaman, Emily Ocelus, Eric and Wendy Hess, Sue Care, Herman Richard, Deb Matthews, Marceline, Anne Eshleman, Daniel Johnson, Gwen Grant, Chris Fatzinger, Hank Droneberg, Pena family, Kim Frain, Ken Jacob, Jen Perez, Frank D., Pam Helfrich, Barb and Tom Faust, Andy Van Dyke, Janet, Feryl Stein, Laurie Scoggins, Pam Abbott, Holli Muffler, Louise Karns, Mary Van Dyke, Pr. Jennifer Phelps, Jessica Trout, Denny Smith, Verdi Smith, Mabel Gaugler, Andy VanDyke, Pat Freed, Sandy Wesner

Peace for the violence in our area and nationally

Long-term

Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Sally Kohl, Tina Farrell, Carol Buchholtz Yost

Shut-in

Penny Frymoyer

Grieving

Family and friends of George Freyer (Lynn & Ron Fegley); family and friends of David Fegley, brother/brother-in-law of Ron and Lynn Fegley; family and friends of Richard Norris.

Military

Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Megan Fricker, Kyle Woods

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

2941 Lutheran Road

Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM

Call for an appointment. (610) 326-1335

Contact Information

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Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall

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Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce

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Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger

Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Director of Senior Faith Formation, Deacon Carol N. Detweiler

carol.detweiler@newhanoverlutheran.org

Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart

eisenbarb@aol.com

Bookkeeper, Maria Boyer

mariaboyer@comcast.net

Cemetery

Bill Bauer, rwbauer7@gmail.com

Norm Hunsberger, namron29@comcast.net

Financial Record

OFFERING	Oct 2022 Contributions	Jan-Oct 2022 Total Contributions	Approved Budget through Oct 2022	% of Budget through Oct 2022
Envelope Offering	\$15,335	\$143,042	\$143,333	100%
Simply Giving Offering	\$9,482	\$100,270	\$111,250	90%
Loose Offering Offering	\$660	\$3,588	\$4,167	86%
<i>Total Offerings</i>	<i>\$25,477</i>	<i>\$246,900</i>	<i>\$258,750</i>	<i>95%</i>
DESIGNATED CONTRIBUTIONS				
Fuel Oil Contributions	\$425	\$4,462	\$7,500	59%
Bulletin Contributions	\$60	\$305	\$1,000	31%
Flower Contributions	\$285	\$2,293	\$2,500	92%
Food Ministry/Garden of Hope Contributions	\$7,316	\$51,294	\$45,833	112%
Peer Support Ministry Contributions	\$1,224	\$11,421	\$3,333	343%
GRANTS				
Peer Support Ministry Grants	\$0	\$0	\$6,250	0%
Food Ministry/Garden of Hope Grants	\$0	\$43,930	\$12,500	351%
CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS				
HVAC Project Contributions	\$1,438	\$66,316	\$167,500	40%
AVEL(1) Project Contributions	\$2,263	\$28,283	\$80,000	35%

(1) AVEL = Audio-Visual, Electric & Lighting project

Send

Songs of joy

Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! (from the hymn "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly.")



Many Christmas carols you sing have rhyming words.

Find five sets of rhyming words in this picture and draw a line between each pair of words (hint: mat and hat).

My favorite Christmas song about Jesus is:

Kids Celebrate

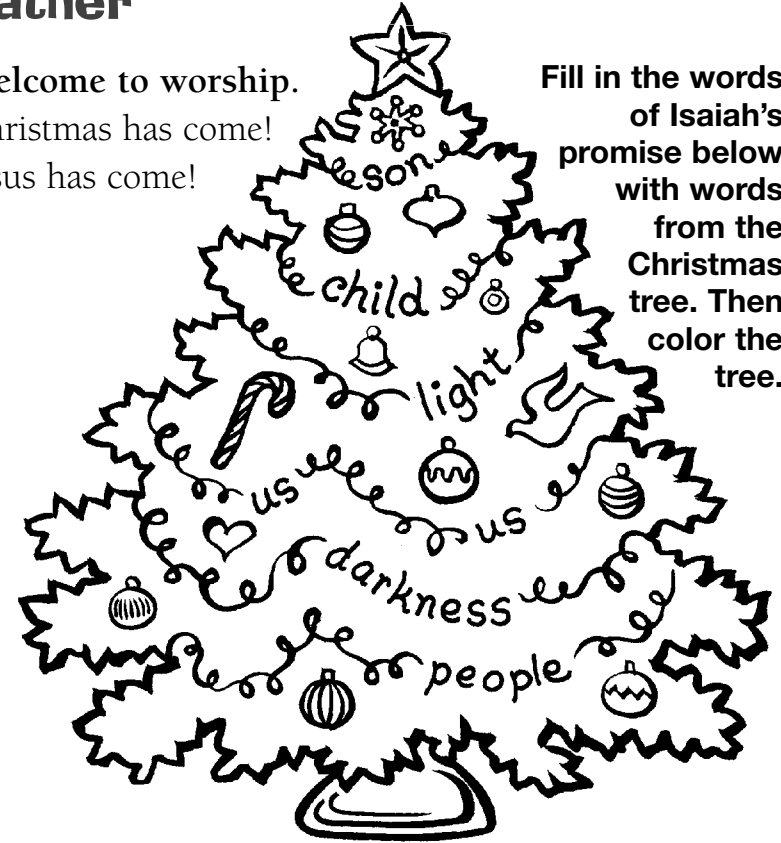
Nativity of Our Lord



gather

Welcome to worship.
Christmas has come!
Jesus has come!

Fill in the words of Isaiah's promise below with words from the Christmas tree. Then color the tree.



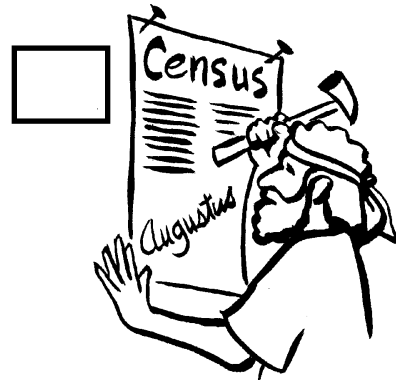
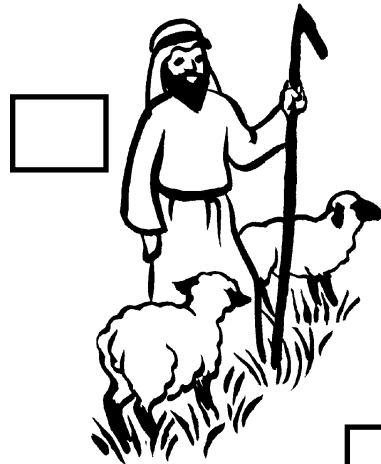
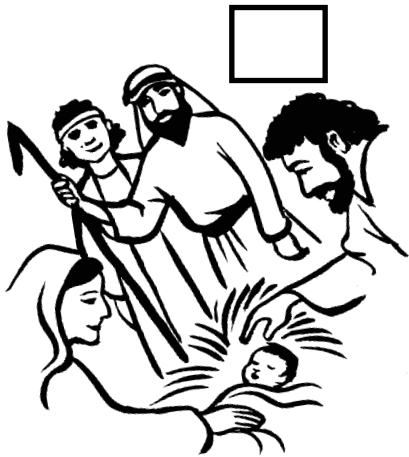
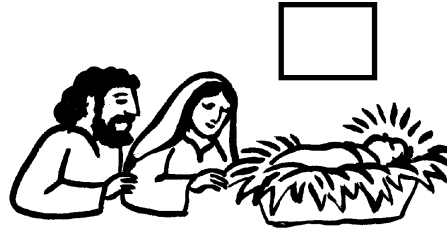
The _____ who walked in _____
have seen a great _____. For a
_____ has been born for _____, a _____
given to _____ (Isaiah 9:2,6).

The big picture of Christmas

Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Simple pictures tell the big story of Christmas. Listen to the story of Jesus' birth as it is told today in the gospel.

Number the seven pictures to put them in the correct order.



Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Amen



Read the Christmas story from Luke or from picture books at home. Notice how different artists tell Jesus' story with pictures.