THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE - "Good Christians All, Rejoice" German Melody, Arr. Robert Powell

HYMN 376 vs 1, 2, 4 & 5 - we sing, standing

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

DIALOG

The Word became flesh, and we have seen His glory. **Oh come, let us worship Him.**

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.

On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father.

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN 380 - we sing, seated

SEVEN LESSONS AND CAROLS

THE FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7 Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

HYMN 386 - we sing, seated

THE SECOND LESSON – Isaiah 11:1-9 *The peace that Christ will bring is prophesied.*

HYMN 359 - we sing, seated

THE THIRD LESSON – Luke 1:26-38 The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

HYMN 366 - we sing, seated

THE FOURTH LESSON – Matthew 1:18-25 *St. Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.*

HYMN 364 - we sing, seated

THE FIFTH LESSON – Luke 2:8-16 *The shepherds are greeted by angels.*

HYMN 368 - we sing, seated

THE SIXTH LESSON – Matthew 2:1-12 *The Wisemen are led by the star to Jesus.*

HYMN 370 - we sing, seated

THE SEVENTH LESSON – John 1:1-14 *St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.*

HYMN 379 - we sing, seated

OFFERTORY

APOSTLES' CREED - we read, standing

ANTHEM - HYMN 362 (we sing, seated)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(all may kneel)

Response: Hear our Prayer!

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN 367 vs 1, 2, 3 & 5 - we sing, standing

POSTLUDE - "We Praise, O Christ, Your Holy Name" tune Gelobet Seist Du; setting by Scheidt

NEWS AND NOTES

Altar Flowers this morning are from Karen Bailey and are in loving memory of Martha Henderson.

Last Sunday Here

Attending: 75 Offering: \$3,293

Christmas Eve Services Here

Attending: 186 Offering: \$2,530

This Week Here

Wed - 1:30 PM - Bible Study - 7:00 PM - Bell Choir - 7:45 PM - Parish Choir

Attn Council Members! If you have not already done so, please hand in your yearend reports to the office by tomorrow, January 2 so that it may be included in the Annual Report.

2024 Volunteers Needed to deliver items to the **food pantry** and **Hope Pregnancy Center**. If you are able and would like to deliver items once or twice a year, please sign up on the bulletin board.

The Benevolence Fund is a vehicle through which members can help those who are in need and by which members in need can find help. For assistance or to make a donation, please see Pastor Rowold. All transactions are kept confidential.

Greeting Card Fund Raiser (a project of the Thursday Ladies Group) - a variety of greeting cards with Christian messages are for sale at \$1 each. These high quality cards are displayed in a rack on the counter outside the office. We will continuously update the selection which includes Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Thank You, Seasonal and miscellaneous choices. After making your selection, please leave your money or check in the box attached to the display. Proceeds go towards various projects. Contact person is Paula Ongley.

Check out "Our Media Gallery" in the CLC website for pictures taken at Pastor N's 70th Anniversary of Ordination, CLC Christmas Preparations, CLC Christmas Pageant, 1st Sunday in Advent, etc.

Annual Corporate Meeting will be held here after our two worship services next Sunday, January 7.

Sunday Morning Coffee Hour - Join us for fellowship between the services. If you are willing, and can serve some mornings by setting up and cleaning up, please sign up on the bulletin board. Your help would be greatly appreciated! Baked goods are always welcome and may be brought in at any time and placed in the freezer to be enjoyed when needed. Questions? Please contact Pam Clark

Weather and Worship - to find out when worship services have been canceled due to weather conditions, check TV channels WTNH channel 8/myTV9, WFSB channel 3, or our website, cheshirelutheran.org. A mass e-mail will also be sent. If you would like to be included on our mass e-mail please let the church office know.