

# Second Sunday of Christmas

January 2, 2022

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## HAVEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

1035 Haven Road Hagerstown, MD 21742 (301) 733-5056

Worship with Communion: Sunday 9:30 a.m. (in-person & Haven's Facebook 'Live')

(<https://www.facebook.com/Haven-Lutheran-Church-134647913268366>)

Ministers: All God's People at Haven Pastor: Linda M. Alessandri

### COME LET US WORSHIP

*A warm welcome to each of you as we gather for worship today and a special welcome to our guests. As we offer God our praise, may you be richly blessed by God's gracious Word, Meal and community.*

## HAVEN IS WORKING TO PROTECT EVERYONE'S HEALTH AS WE WORSHIP

\***The air in Haven's sanctuary is circulated through our new ionizing system 24/7.** This system is the same used in airplanes and doctor's offices to combat airborne particulates that carry bacteria and viruses including COVID.

\***Hand sanitizing** stations and **masks** are available at both entrances.

\***Hand sanitizer** is available in every pew.

\***There is an area of chairs for those who wish to practice social distancing** in the back of the center portion of the church.

\***Communion can be brought to anyone** who would prefer not to come into the center of the congregation.

**Pass on the word that Haven is a good place to worship, with safeguards in place to combat COVID during these challenging times.**

### Special Worship Notes and Precautions

*With Washington County still designated as an area of high COVID transmission, the Maryland Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention strongly recommend but do not require that vaccinated persons wear masks during indoor gatherings. At Haven, vaccinated persons are welcome to wear a mask at worship, for their own protection or the protection of elders, immune-compromised, children, and the unvaccinated.*

**At this time, as we continue to be mindful and caring for one another, please:**

- use provided hand sanitizer as much as possible (as you enter & leave the building & in the pews);
- pass the peace from your seat for now. (A wave, bow or fist bump are the safest. Include a wave to those participating at home. Use hand sanitizer if you do exchange a hand shake.)
- As you come forward for communion, please leave some space between yourself and any persons in front of you who are from another household.
- Like Jesus, we strive to invite, welcome and include everyone. Thus, practicing good hospitality, PLEASE do not ask or quiz persons about their mask choice OR their vaccination status. Wearing a mask or not, we worship our Lord together with gratitude and joy.
- If you are feeling poorly or have a temperature, please join worship on-line until you are feeling better. Call the church if you'd like to be added to the prayer list or speak with the pastor.

*We give thanks that God IS with us as we gather to worship.  
We give thanks for your presence, patience and your prayers  
during these unprecedented times as we worship together  
the Lord who is forever good, loving and faithful.*

*“I was glad when you said, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’”*

*Psalms 121:1*

## GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

(vs 1, 4) #275



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

*(after announcements)*

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: **He is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.**

## PRELUDE

*“What Child Is This?”*

setting by John Behnke

## CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

C: **He is the Light no darkness can overcome.**

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: **In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

## OPENING HYMN

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

(cont. p. 4) #288



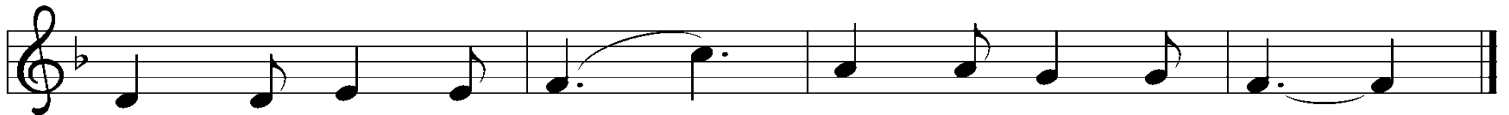
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - jice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

**THE GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

\*THE HYMN OF PRAISE “Angels We Have Heard On High” (vs. 1 & 3, refrain) #289

**Verse 1**

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
 And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains. (Refrain)*

**Verse 3**

*Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
 Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)*

**Refrain**

*(ring bells during the refrain)*  
*Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY C: Amen.

**WORD**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

“Away in a Manger”

(vs. 1) #277

*Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7-10

A: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 98

<sup>1</sup> O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD has made known his victory;**

**he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup> He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup> **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;**

**break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

<sup>5</sup> Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

<sup>6</sup> **With trumpets and the sound of the horn**

**make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

<sup>8</sup> **Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy**

<sup>9</sup> at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL VERSE

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

#276

**Verse 1**

*Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!*

GOSPEL John1:1-18

P: The Gospel according to St. John the first Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(after the Gospel is read)

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ**

Verse 2

*Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.*

*Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!*

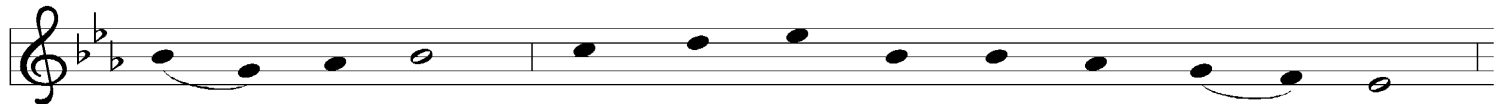
SERMON

Pastor Linda Alessandri

HYMN OF THE DAY "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (cont. p. 7 vs 1, 2, 5) #295



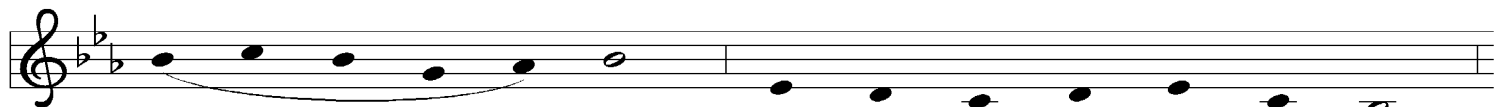
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,  
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
prom-ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

A - men.

**THE PRAYERS** Each prayer ends: “Merciful God.” C: “**receive our prayer.**”  
*When the petition is read that includes those serving in the armed forces, the congregation is asked to please join in reading the names in bold print:*

... Protect those sent into harm’s way for the sake of peace especially **Gavin** Anderson, **Ben** Asbury, **Amanda** Bertucci, **Richard** Collins, **Cole** Conrad, **Nick** Graham, **Michael** McKenzie III, **Travis** Thompson, **Hunter** Wiles.

*When the petition is read that includes those listed in our prayer list, the congregation is invited to join in that prayer by reading aloud the names below. Read only the bold portion of the names, going down the columns. (\*Friends & Family of Haven Members)*

... especially,

**Carol** Shull  
 \***Virginia** White  
 \***Sandy** Brandon  
 \***Edward** Staley  
 \***Helen** VanderHamm  
 \***Nasrin** Sotoudeh  
 \***Courtney** Belmont  
 \***Caitlyn** Battoe  
 \***Brandi** Allsop  
 \***Seth** Battoe  
 \***Debora** Daniels  
**Larry & Sharon**  
 Hartsock  
 \***Teresa** Hoover  
 \***Lindsey** Hoover  
 \***Johnny** Wright  
 \***William** Burkley  
**Harold** Rice

\***Amanda** Cunningham  
 \***Jim & Ann** Conrad  
 \***Tally** Uchina  
 \***Ernie** Howe  
 \***Ralph & Marion** Rowe  
 \***Marci** Dean  
 \***Dave** Bennett  
 \***Jennifer** Tobin  
 \***Elena** Naylor  
 \***Patrick** Stoneberger  
**Scott** Rhodes  
 \***Diana** Grimes  
 \***Liz** Miller  
 \***Jan Reynolds and**  
**Family**  
 \***Paula** Viscusi  
 \***Tina** Krichnan  
**Pam** O’Connor

\***Sadie** Garner  
 \***Family of Wilma**  
**Ogren**  
 \***Vera** Rosenow  
 \***Gael & David** Butcher  
 \***Nelson** Strobert  
 \***Rod & Patty**  
 Bonebrake  
 \***Claudy** Family  
 \***Holder** Family  
 \***John** Crafton  
 \***Bobby** Hoffman  
 \***Judy** Kofot  
 \***Duane** VanScyoc  
 \***Dawn** Allamong  
 Hayzlett  
**Pile** Family  
 \***Miss** Dee

**\*THE SHARING OF PEACE**

**P:** The peace of the Lord and the blessings of Christmas be with you always.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** We share signs of God's peace with one another.

*(Pass the peace from your seat for now. A wave, bow or fist bump is the safest.  
Include a wave to those participating at home. There is hand sanitizer in the pews.)*

**THE MEAL**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** "All My Heart Again Rejoices"

**THE OFFERING**

**P:** It's Offering time! **C:** **Praise God!**

*(May God bless what we give and use it to bring wholeness, healing and hope to God's world. Amen.  
Thank you for your faithful generosity.)*

**THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS** "What Child Is This" (vs. 1, 3)

#296

**Verse 1**

*What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!*

**Verse 3**

*So bring him incense, gold and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the son on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!*

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A:** Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.  
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,

**C:** **prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table  
and renew in us the song of your salvation,  
in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**



P: Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God,

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars;

beneath the sea;

within each cell;

with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water;

by night and day;

across the wilderness;

out of exile;

into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:

at the heart of human life;

near to those who suffer;

beside the sinner;

among the poor;

with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,

and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us

on the way,

at the table,

and to the end,

we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering;  
within this meal;  
among your people;  
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks  
to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.

**C: Amen.**

#### \*THE 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.**

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P:** In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,  
come, see what God makes known for you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*For those communing in their homes: Please have your communion set(s) ready, removing the protective film on the host and grape juice. Pastor will then say, "Body of Christ, given for you." Please consume the host. Pastor will say, "Blood of Christ, shed for you."*

*Please drink the grape juice. As your brothers and sisters in Christ in the church receive communion, please pray for them and/or sing the communion songs on their behalf.*

*For those communing in the church: Holy Communion will be offered in bread and wine. Grape juice is also available. As your section comes forward, **please leave room between yourself and those in front of you who are from another household.***

*First come to the pastor to receive the bread dropped into your hand. Step to the side and consume the bread. Second, go to the assisting minister to take a cup of wine or grape juice. Step to the side and consume the wine or grape juice. As you return to your seat, there will be a basket where you can dispose of your empty cup.*

**HYMNS DURING COMMUNION**

**“Lamb of God”**

**ELW p. 208**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.  
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

“Cold December Flies Away”

#299



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.  
 2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.  
 3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders  
 All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.  
 In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the  
 But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en  
 And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the  
 light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est  
 birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.  
 hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.  
 spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

#272



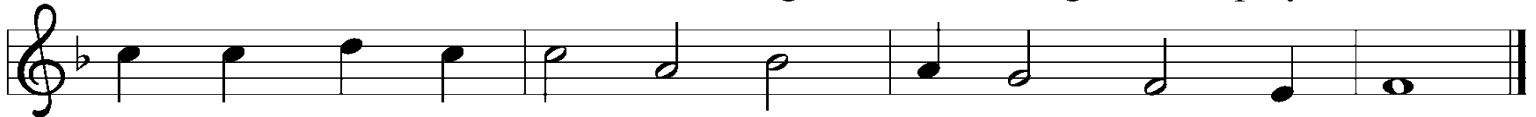
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



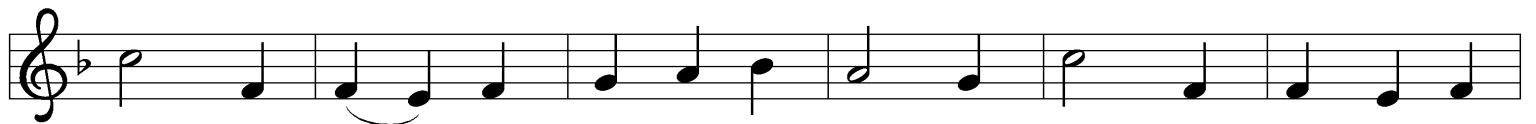
seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

“Love Has Come”

(cont. p. 14) #292



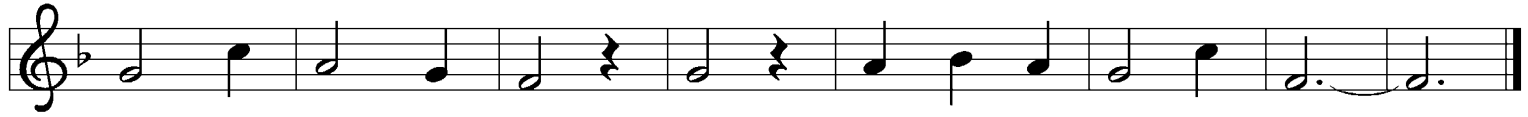
1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

**TABLE BLESSING C: Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A:** We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,  
 God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.

**C:** **As we have shared this feast of love,  
 strengthen us to share your love with all the world.  
 In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

**P:** The God of hope, fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
 so that we may abound in hope  
 by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
 through † Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

**C: Amen.**

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

## POSTLUDE

## “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

setting by John Behnke

## DISMISSAL

**A:** Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

**C:** **We will! Thanks be to God.**

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### Serving God's People this Sunday Morning: January 2, 2022

**Presiding Minister**

Pastor Linda M. Alessandri

**Assisting Minister**

Danny Kiblinger

**Organist**

Steve Pastena

**Acolyte**

Melita Kapan

**Ushers**

Kathy Wright, Kim Pile, Scott Rhodes

**Securing the Building**

Ken Tice, Kris Fignar

**We also Remember in Prayer:**

Our homebound members: *Irene Giffin, Sari Kilheffer, Phyllis Meyers, Inez Winebrenner and Dorothy Zinkand.*

Military personnel serving in harm’s way: *Gavin Anderson, Ben Asbury, Amanda Bertucci, Richard Collins, Cole Conrad, Nick Graham, Michael McKenzie III, Travis Thompson, Hunter Wiles.*

Prayers for all those who mourn the loss of **Zachary Arensdorf and Karl Pile.**

Hospital Admissions: **PLEASE** call Haven’s church office (301-733-5056) or Pastor Alessandri (301-745-4216) if you or a loved one have a planned or emergency admission to the hospital. We also want to add you or your loved one to our prayer list so our congregation can lift you up in prayer.

*The Readings for next Sunday, **January 9, 2022** ~ Matthew 2: 1-12, Psalm 29, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

**Serving God’s People next Sunday morning: January 9, 2022**

- Presiding Minister**                      Pastor Linda Alessandri
- Assisting Minister**                    Terry Trovinger
- Organist**                                    Stephen Pastena
- Acolyte**                                     Austin Suchy
- Ushers**                                      Amy Mason, Marge Cunningham, Kathleen Kline
- Securing the Building**                Ken Tice, Kris Fignar

**FAITH BUILDING TOGETHER!**



As of December 19, **\$66,661.70** has been donated toward our \$100,000 building loan. Way to go Haven! You are blest and a blessing.

**DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES**



**HAVEN’S BLESSING BOX** – Donations are needed for our Blessings Box. Haven’s Blessing Box is intended to function as a small neighborhood pantry, offering items to those who have a need. Primarily, the box contains shelf-stable foods. Suggestions for donated items are on the mobile board and in Januray’s newsletter.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For up-to-date information about church events and worship visit [www.havenlc.org](http://www.havenlc.org).





Today at 10:45am children and parents join us for the God Squad Explorers for "Adventures in Light"



**COMING UP THIS WEEK:**

- January 3**      **Office Closed**  
6:00 Bell Choir  
7:00 Property meeting
- January 5**      10:00 Bible Study  
7:00 Choir
- January 9**      **9:30 Worship Service** (in-person & Facebook Live)  
11:00 Adult Sunday School  
12:00 Confirmation Class

**The office will be closed Tomorrow, January 3, 2022 in observation of the new year.**

>>>>>>>>>>  
**ANNUAL**  
Committee  
**REPORTS**  
<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

**ANNUAL REPORTS** You may think there is little to report in this COVID year, still we need to share what DID happen. There was still ministry happening at Haven! God IS with us. Team reports should be either electronically sent to the office at havenoffice@havenlc.org or brought to the office on a flash drive.

- If you do not have a flash drive, please contact the office to borrow one.
- If you do not have access to computer software, then contact the church office for other arrangements in advance of the deadline.

Reports are due from all congregational teams and leaders. Annual Reports will be due to the Church Office by **January 15, 2022.**

## **PRAYERS FOR A NEW YEAR**

### New Year's Prayer

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

- *Rev. Marcy Sheremetta*

### A New Year Prayer

We Pray...

For healing...prepare us for surprises.

For strength...prepare us for surprises.

For vision...prepare us for surprises.

For transformation...prepare us for surprises.

For messengers and messenges...prepare us for surprises.

For community...prepare us for surprises.

For acceptance - of ourselves and others...prepare us for surprises.

For making room at our tables...prepare us for surprises.

For Truth-seeking...prepare us for surprises.

For support...prepare us for surprises.

For Common Ground...prepare us for surprises.

Walk beside us, O Holy One,  
as we question and welcome,  
as we challenge and invite,

as we discover and understand,  
as we see, touch, taste, smell, and listen for the Newness awaiting us in 2022.

May we, Your Holy People, walk forward together side by side.

Amen

- *Written by Sister Mary Ann Barret, O.P.*

### The Work of Christmas Begins

When the carols have been stilled,  
When the star-topped tree is taken down,  
When family and friends are gone home,  
When we are back to our schedules

The work of Christmas begins:

To welcome the refugee,  
To heal a broken planet,  
To feed the hungry,  
To build bridges of trust, not walls of fear,  
To share our gifts,  
To seek justice and peace for all people,  
To bring Christ's light to the world.

- *by Michael Dougherty, a variation on Howard Thurman's 'When the Song of the Angels is Stilled'*



***Haven Mission Statement:***

*“To honor God, to reach out with love to our members and the community and to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.”*

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

*Will Seilhamer            President*  
*Stephen Kauffman      Vice President*  
*Jim Cannon             Treasurer*  
*Scott Rhodes            Secretary*  
*Doug Wright            Immediate Past President*

*Marge Cunningham*

*Kris Fignar*

*June Hess*

*Elaine Michael*

*Nancy Newkirk*

*Ken Tice*

*Aura Neikirk*

**ASSISTING CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

*Terry Trovinger            Assistant Treasurer*  
*Doug Wright              Restricted Funds/Special Gifts Treasurer*

**STAFF**

*Pastor Linda M. Alessandri    Pastor*  
*Mary Grabill                  Administrative Assistant*  
*Stephen Pastena                Organist, Choir & Chimes Director*  
*Nancy Newkirk                 Bell Choir Director*