

**CHRISTMAS DAY
2011 C.E.**



JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Light looked down and saw darkness.

"I will go there," said Light.

Peace looked down and saw war.

"I will go there," said Peace.

Love looked down and saw hatred.

"I will go there," said Love.

So, the Brightest of Light, the Prince of Peace,
the King & Queen of Love, all came down

and Jesus crept in beside us.

***OPENING HYMN O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL**

ADESTE FIDELES 6.6.10.5.6 with refrain

John Francis Wade (c. 1740-1743)
Trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841

John Francis Wade (c. 1740-1743)
Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing,
*3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion!

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem!
Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry given;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!

Come, and be - hold Him, Born the King of an - gels!
Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est!

Refrain
O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a -

dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ, the Lord!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hear the Good News:

Jesus Christ is born!

Lift up your voices:

Jesus Christ is born!

Break forth together into song:

Joy to the world

our Lord has come!

HYMN

JOY TO THE WORLD!

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt. Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742
Arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -
 2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns: Let us our
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room,
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 fest the ground; He comes to make His bless - ings flow
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous - ness,

And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His

And
 sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

UNISON PRAYER FROM ISAIAH 9

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. 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 One, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kindom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the GOD of hosts will do this.

SILENT PRAYER

RESPONSE: BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with life a - new.
 That I may love what Thou dost love, And do what Thou wouldst do.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The good news is that we have been given another chance to remember how much we are loved that God gave us the One whose birth we remember today!

Our thanks and praise to the God of life and hope!

Let us remember this day of Christmas not as one day of the year, but as every day. For it is in each and every day that...

God's grace dwells among us!

May the Peace of Christ be with you all!

And also with you!

Let us greet each other, loved and forgiven!

GREETING EACH OTHER, LOVED, FORGIVEN AND IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Be with us, O God, as we listen to these words of Luke that tells the story of long ago, today's story, as well.

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 1: 1-20

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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of God stood before them, and the glory of God 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 God 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 God has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SERMON INTO OUR CARE HE CAME

RAY BAGNUOLO

***HYMN GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN**

Stanzas, John W. Work II (1872-1925)

African-American spiritual
Arr. John W. Work III, 1940
Harm. and adapt. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

Refrain

Go, tell it on the moun - tain O-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine

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 low - ly man-ger The hum-ble Christ was born,

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.

D.C.

PREPARING FOR THE OFFERING

In this world, someone has too much.

Someone has barely enough, someone has nothing at all.

When we share our commitment and financial support, we act on the imagination of Jesus.

Jesus, who sees enough bread to go around, enough courage to speak the truth, and enough love to overcome all things.

O God, to those of us who have hunger, give bread. And to those of us who have bread, give the hunger for justice.

When the 5,000 were hungry, the disciples came to Jesus and said: "Send the people away, so they may get something to eat."

Jesus answered: "You give them something to eat."

OFFERTORY MUSIC

BLESSING THE OFFERING:

And the people reached in their pockets and pulled out the bread and the fishes and shared them, and there was abundance for all, and even more. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US (IN UNISON)

Our Mother/Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*HYMN HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring;
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3 Hail the Bear - er of God's peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous-ness,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ner rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time the Sav - ior comes, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
Light and life our Sav - ior brings, risen with ra - diant, heal - ing wings.

Joy - ful, all you saints a - rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh, the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
Mild - ly lay - ing glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

With the an - gel host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased on earth with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
Born to raise us all from earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring!"

GOING FORTH

“Light shines in the darkness
and the darkness cannot overcome it,”
proclaims the ancient word;

light stands firm against the dark landscape of reality,
while warmth prances in rooms too long drafty.

Each of us holding a flickering candle;
seemingly insignificant one by one,
yet magnificent when held together.

Each of us making a choice to stand in the light;
proclaiming the indisputable presence of unquenchable light.

Light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

POSTLUDE

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND PEACE TO ALL ON EARTH!



JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

A WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

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Welcome! Since 1888, the doors of this church have been open to those who seek a new way to engage with the Spirit and be nourished at the welcome table. In those early years, Jan Hus Presbyterian Church (first called the Bohemian Brethren Presbyterian Church) served the needs of the Czech immigrants who founded the church and named it after the martyr Jan Hus. Today, our mission has expanded to include people from many different walks in life who want to share this stage of their journey with others in a God-centered community. We continue to honor our Czech founders by singing our closing hymn in the Czech language and often being visited by delegations and groups from the Czech Republic.

Worship at Jan Hus is a time for the Body of Christ to affirm God’s vision for the world and witness the Gospel of Hope, Justice, and Love. We believe that God is greater than human language or experience, so you may notice that in order to more fully experience God we embrace language that acknowledges God the Mother and God the Father. We hold fast to the tenets of the Reformation that call for the priesthood of all believers, therefore ours is a community pulpit, one in which we hear the Scriptures interpreted by both clergy and laity, which allows for a greater reflection of the community as a whole – a diverse expression of the presence of God in each believer and at the core of our collective experience. At Jan Hus, we see the sermons that are offered as conversations that give us an opportunity to hear how God’s voice speaks through each of us. We hope that you feel the invitation in such sermons, giving thought to new ways of seeing and hearing God, while deepening and affirming the beliefs we hold most true.

It is possible that worship at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House may seem different than what you expect. That’s fine – we tend to agree that God loves to challenge us with the unexpected! Whatever your experience here, please know that you are truly welcome as one created by the God who loves us all.

We are happy to have you with us and thank God for bringing us together on this, the day that God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it, especially on this Christmas Day 2011, seeking to make each day a day in which we remember the birth of Christ.

COUNCIL: Ruling Elders: Kerry Flynn, Gary Ireland, Annie Rawlings, Del Shorter, Deborah Widerkehr

DEACON: Essie Rance

OUR STAFF

Ministers

Ray Bagnuolo

Amy Conley

David Kelley

Stanley M. Kusz

Edmund Leary

Christian McLeer

Karl Kaminski

Jeremiah Frederick

Walter Marcus

Holly Nedelka, Director

Jimmy Ortiz

Francis (Frank) Rocco

Felix Rojas

Carol Schachter

Gerard D. Shaw

EXCEPTIONAL MINISTRY INTERNS

All the People

Teaching Elder

Outreach Consultant

Supervisor HOAP, Sr. Social Worker, MSW

Hospitality Minister, Assistant to Pastor

Outreach – Clothing Distribution

Music Director

Musician

Musician

Custodian, Hospitality

Child’s PlayGroups; www.childsplaynyc.com

Building Manager

Chief Operating Officer

Outreach Consultant

Comptroller/Church Administrator

Hospitality Specialist

Cynthia Gardner-Brim, Gloria-Jean Skeete

New York Theological Seminary