



WE EXIST TO... GROW IN
CHRIST, LOVE LIKE CHRIST,
LIVE FOR CHRIST

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023

WELCOME / PRAYER OF INVOCATION

COME, BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY
Hymns of Grace, 184

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

SERMON: "THE BIRTH OF JESUS"
LUKE 2:1-21

COMMUNION

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day He arose again.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy and universal Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

SING WE THE SONG OF EMMANUEL

Verse 1
Sing we the song of Emmanuel;
This, the Christ, who was long foretold.
Lo, in the shadows of Bethlehem,
Promise of dawn now our eyes behold.

Chorus 1
God, Most High, in a manger laid.
Lift your voices and now proclaim,
"Great and glorious, Love has come to us."
Join now with the hosts of heaven.

Verse 2
Come we to welcome Emmanuel,
King who came with no crown or throne.
Helpless, He lay, the Invincible.
Maker of Mary, now Mary's son.

Chorus 2
O, what wisdom to save us all.
Shepherds, sages before Him fall.
Grace and majesty, what humility.
Come on bended knee, adore Him.

Verse 3
Go spread the news of Emmanuel.
Joy and peace for the weary heart.
Lift up your heads for your King has come.
Sing, for the Light overwhelms the dark.

Chorus 3
Glory shining for all to see.
Hope alive, let the gospel ring.
God has made a way. He will have the praise.
Tell the world His name is Jesus.
[Repeat]

Bridge
Gloria. Gloria.
Gloria. Gloria.
[Repeat]

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LIVING HOPE

Verse 1
How great the chasm that lay between us.
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Verse 2
Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven.
The King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Chorus
Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.
(Repeat)

Verse 3
Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me.
(Repeat)

Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Chorus

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BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR
Hymns of Grace, 193

BENEDICTION

- Giving:** If you feel led to give to the ministry of TVC, there is an offering box in the back of the sanctuary or online giving is available
- Apr 26:** Foundations class: we would love to have you join us for a 7-week study of the Sermon on the Mount – morning class from 930–11 AM & evening class from 6–730 PM
- Apr 30:** Fellowship breakfast from 9–945 AM - please bring a dish to share
- Rooted for children ages 4 years old – 4th grade from 9–930 AM in the Northeast Nook
- Thrive for children in 5th grade & up from 9–930 AM in East Hall

Read Ahead: Luke 2:22–40

General Info:

TVC Kids: Backpacks filled with a note sheet, a coloring page, and snacks are available for children Pre-K – 5th grade. Note sheets are available for children in 5th – 8th grade.

We strive for family integrated worship & want to encourage parents to keep their children in the sanctuary or East Hall for worship. However, we understand that children can get restless & squirmy, so if you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to do so. There is a kid friendly area in the downstairs Fellowship Hall, geared for children ages 0–4 years old, that can be used by families who have children that may need to get some wiggles out. Please know that you are welcome to rejoin the service at any time.

We also offer a volunteer staffed Nursery during the sermon. We are thankful & appreciate the opportunity to serve you & your children.

Gospel Growth Communities (GGCs): GGCs are just one way you can purposefully and intentionally invest in your church family as we seek to grow in Christ, love like Christ & live for Christ. If you are interested in joining a GGC, please contact one of your elders. The Reed GGC meets Sunday evenings in Nobleboro. Sorterup GGC meets Wednesday evenings in Damariscotta. The Holladay GGC meets Thursday evenings in Bristol. The Norton GGC meets Thursday evenings in Bremen.

Discussion Questions:

1. Who is God (what does this passage tell me about God’s character)?

2. What has God done (how do I see God’s character in action)?
3. Who am I (how does God’s character and action shape how I see myself)?
4. What do I do (if I believe 1–3 how would I respond and relate to others)?

Elders: Breck Holladay, Phil Nicewonger, Jeff Norton & Grant Sorterup

Twin Villages Church
40 Church St., PO Box 314, Damariscotta
www.twinvillageschurch.org
Phone: (207) 975–9632

Preacher: Phil Nicewonger Service Leader: Jeff Norton