



December 24, 2022
WE GATHER TO WORSHIP
6:30 p.m.

PRELUDE		Piano/Chancel Organ
STRIKING THE HOUR	"Adeste Fideles"	The Carillon Bells
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		
CALL TO WORSHIP		
† INTROIT	"O Come, All Ye Faithful"	Page 249
† Please stand as you are able.		
	(All Verses)	
† EVENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER		
† ANTHEM	"Gloria Patri"	Page 813

"CAROLS AND CANDLE LIGHT"

Liturgy and musical arrangement / Rev. John O. Strauss

1 ST READING		
Hymn	"We Have Come into His House"	Page 224
	(All Verses)	
2 ND READING		
Hymn	"Angels We have Heard on High"	Page 278
	(Verses 1,4)	
3 RD READING		
Hymn	"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	Page 250
	(Verses 1,2,4)	
4 TH READING		
Hymn	"Joy to the World"	Page 250
	(Verses 1,2,4)	



5 TH READING		
Hymn	"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"	Page 251
	(Verses 1,2,3)	
6 TH READING		
Solo	"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"	Page 279
7 TH READING		
Hymn	"We Three Kings"	Page 288
	(Verses 1,2,5)	
8 TH READING		
Hymn	"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"	Page 258
	(All Verses)	
9 TH READING		
Hymn	"Peace, Perfect Peace"	Page 532
	(All Verses 1,2,3,4)	
HOMILY	"Silent Night, Incarnation's Light"	

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

We light candles as a sign of the coming Light of Christ.

HYMN	"Silent Night! Holy Night!"	Page 253
	(All Verses)	
BENEDICTION		



GO IN PEACE AND HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

OUR MISSION

TO PRESENT CHRIST TO EVERYONE,
EVERYWHERE, AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.



THE LESSONS FOR USE ON THE
NATIVITY OF THE LORD
Isaiah 9:2-7 • Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-20 • Psalm 96

WE AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

- The Holy Trinity of God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God has revealed Himself fully and decisively in Holy Scripture. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be God's inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word and our guide for faith and life.
- There is only one way to Salvation - through Jesus Christ.
- The sanctity of human life based on God's creation of us in His image and our election by God for service in His Kingdom. This truth leads us to affirm life's sanctity at every stage, from conception to ordinary death.
- The Biblical guidelines for immutable gender and sexuality. The exclusive union of one man and one woman in marriage; and fidelity to its vows. And chastity outside of marriage for the sake of the Kingdom.
- God made all people from one man, and although different ethnicities and nationalities can distinguish people, we are all one human race and absolute equals before God in creation, the need for repentance, and the offer of redemption.
- The Church's mission is to spread the Good News of the Gospel in every word and deed, proclaiming to the world the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and seeking to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship, and submission to Him.



In this constantly changing world our goal is to reflect and recapture the historic and classical worship of Almighty God. Central to our service is the proclamation of the Word and a biblical understanding of the Sacraments in the tradition of the Evangelical and Reformed faith



The INCARNATION refers literally to the in-fleshing of the eternal Son of God — Jesus “*putting on our flesh and blood*” and becoming fully human. The doctrine of the incarnation affirms that the eternal second person of the Trinity took on humanity in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. A helpful way to remember the key aspects of the incarnation is the summary statement of John 1:14: “*The Word became flesh.*”

The WORD

The Word refers to the eternal divine Son who was “in the beginning with God” and who himself is God (John 1:1). From eternity past until he took on humanity, the Son of God existed in perfect love, joy, and harmony in the fellowship of the Trinity. Like the Father and the Spirit, he was spirit and had no material substance. But at the incarnation, the eternal Word entered into creation as human. He became a first-century Jew.

BECAME

Became does not mean that he ceased to be God. In becoming man, he did not forsake his divine nature, as if that were even an option. Rather, he became man by taking on human nature in addition to his divine nature. It is essential to the incarnation — and very helpful throughout all theology — to recognize that divinity and humanity are not mutually exclusive. The Son of God didn’t have to pick between being God and being man. He could be both at the same time. The eternal Word became human.

FLESH

Flesh isn’t merely a reference to the human body but the entirety of what makes up humanity — body, mind, emotions, and will. Hebrews 2:17 and 4:15 teach that to save human beings Jesus had to be made like us “in every respect” except our sin. In the incarnation, everything proper to humanity was united to the Son of God. The Son of God did not only become like man; he actually became truly and fully human.

The WORD BECAME FLESH

So, the eternal Son of God, without ceasing to be God, took on a fully human nature. This is what Christians have long called “the incarnation.” And what a magnificent truth and fuel for worship this is. Jesus didn’t just become man because he could. This was no circus stunt, just for show. He became man, in the words of the ancient creed, “*for us and for our salvation.*” The eternal Word became frail human flesh and blood to save us from our sin and to free us to marvel at and enjoy the unique union of divinity and humanity in his one spectacular person.

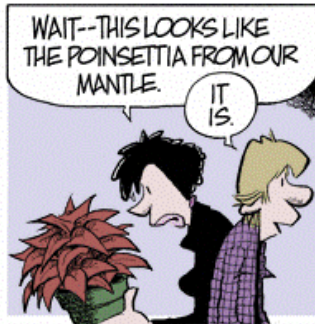
The INCARNATION is not only the way in which Jesus became Emmanuel — God *with us* — but it’s an eternal testimony that he and his Father are unswervingly *for us*.



The Chancel Flowers Placed by:
Don Jennings
In celebration of Ginny’s Birthday



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THE ELDERS

TEACHING / WORSHIP

Rev. H. Joseph Kler
Senior Pastor / I.F.O.C. Chaplain



Rev. John O. Strauss
Minister of Music / Choir Director

OUR MUSICIANS

Pianists: Dee Schultz, Ann Dantuma,
Flutist: Donna Zenisek-Huber

SOUND BOOTH TECHNICIANS

Joe Negron, Jonathan Kler

THE BOARD

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To contact Board President John Vosteen, please call: 813-731-2803
To contact the Pastor, please call: 813-323-0802, or Vickie’s cell: 863-409-8850

OUR VOLUNTEER STAFFED

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

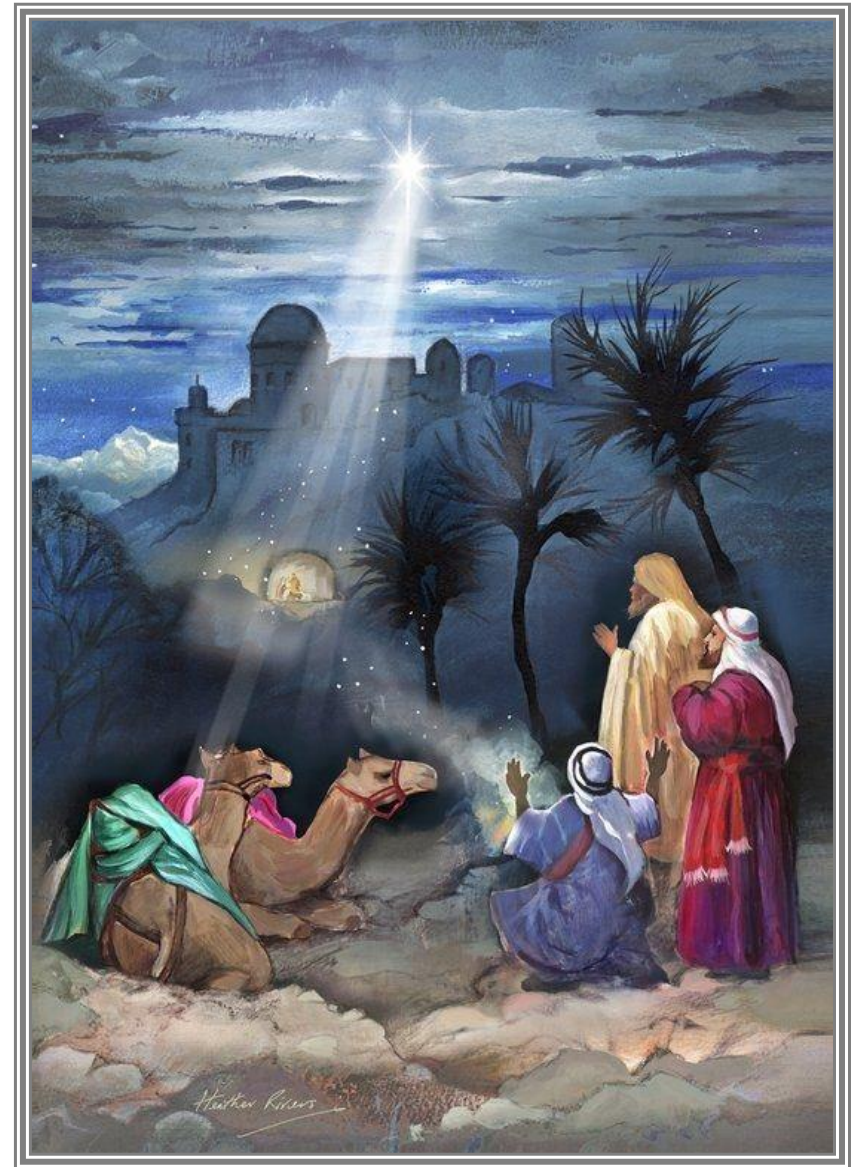
Phone: 813-780-6027 • Website: www.fcczhills.org • Email: fcczh@aol.com



FAIRVIEW

COMMUNITY CHURCH of ZEPHYRHILLS
...a Christ-centered, Reformed faith fellowship.

Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing, but *Encourage* one another as the *Day of the Lord* draws near. —Hebrews 10:25



7900 Fort King Road – Zephyrhills, FL 33541
813-780-6027 / fcczh@aol.com
Radio Frequency 87.9
www.fcczhills.org