And holy is your name through all generations! Everlasting is your mercy to the people you have chosen, and holy is your name.

I am lowly as a child, but I know from this day forward that my name will be remembered, for all will call me blessèd.

And holy is your name...

I proclaim the pow'r of God, you do marvels for your servants; though you scatter the proud-hearted and destroy the might of princes.

And holy is your name...

To the hungry you give food, send the rich away empty. In your mercy you are mindful of the people you have chosen.

And holy is your name...

In your love you now fulfil what you promised to your people. I will praise you, Lord, my saviour, everlasting is your mercy.

And holy is your name...

David Haas (b.1957) ©1989, GIA Publications [One License: 01021]

READING: Luke 2: 1-7 (Christian Standard Bible)

Heather Nicholas

SONG: It was on a starry night

Watch video https://youtu.be/1fU35peVOlo

It was on a starry night when the hills were bright, Earth lay sleeping, sleeping calm and still. Then in a cattle-shed, in a manger-bed, a boy was born, king of all the world.

And all the angels sang for him, the bells of heaven rang for him for a boy was born, king of all the world.(Repeat) Soon the shepherds came that way. where the baby lay, and were kneeling, kneeling by his side. And their hearts believed again for the peace of men, for a boy was born, king of all the world. And all the angels sang for him....

Joy Webb © Salvationist Publishing & Supplies

READING: Luke 2: 8-20 (Christian Standard Bible) Mary Darling

SONG: In the bleak midwinter

Watch video https://youtu.be/1 R3GPkIDeM

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone: snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign: in the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there. cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb, if I were a wise man, I would do my part, yet what I can I give him, give my heart. Christina Rossetti (1830-94) (Public Domain)

DRAMA: JESUS IS THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE by Michelle Foga Joan is trying to install some new software on her computer....

READING: 1 John 1: 1-10 (Easy to Read Version) Gordon Macdonald

REFLECTIONS

SONG: Hark! the herald angels sing

Watch video https://youtu.be/WRZSh-riRNM?list=PLUTsn5gOo3DGEShHZKV5vZ5WBKuaxwPi

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all you nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb: veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity, pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing...

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing...
Charles Wesley (1707-1788) (Public Domain)

SONG: See him lying on a bed of straw

Watch video https://youtu.be/A67m5LnnZxY

See him lying on a bed of straw: a draughty stable with an open door; Mary cradling the babe she bore the prince of glory is his name.

O now carry me to Bethlehem to see the Lord of love again: just as poor as was the stable then, the prince of glory when he came.

Star of silver, sweep across the skies, show where Jesus in the manger lies; shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise to see the saviour of the world!

O now carry me to Bethlehem.....

Angels, sing again the song you sang, sing the glory of God's gracious plan; Sing that Bethl'em's little baby can be the saviour of us all.

Mine are riches, from your poverty, from your innocence, eternity; mine, forgiveness by your death for me, child of sorrow for my joy.

O now carry me...

O now carry me...

Michael Perry (1942-96) © Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns

PRAYER

READING: Luke 1: 26-38a (New Century Bible) Lorna Ward

SONG: My soul is filled with joy Watch video https://youtu.be/uILEUS4fyQg

My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my saviour: you have looked upon your servant, you have visited your people.

PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, members of the prayer team will be glad to meet with you at the back of the church, after the service.

COFFEE AND CHAT at TCC Thursdays, 10am - noon

In the church hall: come regularly or once in a while; come for 10 minutes, or stay all morning. All welcome!

Saturday 23rd December, 10.30 - 2.00pm

Carol singing in the precinct (10.30 onwards)
Serving hot drinks in FFF (10am till 2pm)
Want to be involved? Please speak to Joan or Sheila.

THIS EVENING at ST JAMES

Service of Lessons and Carols 7pm start – all welcome. Refreshments afterwards

RENEW 26

Thurs 2-4pm Glencorse Centre

Fri 10am - noon, PNK

A quiet shared space where it's OK not to be OK

Contact one of the hosts on 07956738481 or at renewtwentysix@gmail.com

TCC PRAYER MEETING

Resumes on Sunday Dec 31st at **7.15pm**, in the hall.

This week and next please join instead with the other church services taking place here or elsewhere in the town.

Next Services:

Christmas Eve:

11.00am Morning Worship (4th in Advent)
4.30pm All-age Christmas Eve Gathering

11.30pm Watchnight Service (Hot drinks from 11pm)

Christmas Day

10.30am Christmas Morning Celebration

Hogmanay / New Year's Eve

11.00am Joint Service at Penicuik North Kirk

Penicuik Trinity Community Church (Church of Scotland)



Welcome to our service today Sunday, December 17th 2023

The Third Sunday in Advent:
God is Light



Whether you come here regularly, or are a visitor, we are glad that you can be with us today, and hope you'll join us after the service in the hall for soup and fellowship.

Church website: penicuiktrinitycommunity.church

OPENING MUSIC: Candlelight Carol

Watch video https://youtu.be/FoGJsXwJNbU

How do you capture the wind on the water? How do you count all the stars in the sky? How can you measure the love of a mother? Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn. 'Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo!' angels are singing; the Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him, seraphim round him their vigil will keep, nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour, but Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.

Candlelight, angel light...

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger: Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay. Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation, a child with his mother that first Christmas Day.

Candlelight, angel light...

© John Rutter (b 1945)

WELCOME and NOTICES

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

One: Surely God is our salvation.

All: We will trust in God and not be afraid.
One: Surely God is our strength and our song.

All: We will make known God's deeds among the peoples.

One: We gather in Advent to wait, watch, and wonder.

All: We gather to share the joy we find in Jesus,

and the joy that God finds in us!

(Based on Isaiah 12: 2-6)

PRAYERS for OTHER PEOPLE and OURSELVES (led by Joyce Maclean)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

SONG: Joy to the world

Watch video https://youtu.be/FLURukXoht8

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

Let earth receive her king;

let every heart prepare him room

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns:

your sweetest songs employ,

while fields and streams, and hills and plains,

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

He rules the world with truth and grace,

and makes the nations prove

the glories of his righteousness,

the wonders of his love,

the wonders of his love,

the wonders, wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) (Public Domain)

THE BLESSING

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