

REFLECTIONS ON CHRIST'S BIRTH

The Virgin Birth: (J. Phillip)

The doctrine of the virgin birth bears witness to how close God in flesh came to the polluted, broken, dark and lowly world of sinners. He lived on earth not as a king, but as a carpenter; not in a palace but in a peasant home; born not in a bed but a stable, and laid in a manger, not with nurses and doctors in attendance, but cattle. And the circumstances of His birth were such as to cast a shadow upon Him and His mother all their earthly days ... He came down as low as this. And it was all part of what was involved in the awesome mystery of being made sin for us, that we might be the righteousness of God in Him. How near He came to the pollution of sin when He became our Savior.

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He hath visited and redeemed His people, that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of them that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember His holy covenant.”

(Luke 1:68, 71-2)

Contact info: Pastor: Carl Durham (cell) 802-272-5864 pastor@copevt.org
Elders: Michael Breen, Chris Liff, Andrew Selle (Teacher), Michael Sherburne
Deacons: Craig Comstock, Kevin McMahon
249 Airport Road, Barre, VT 05641 www.copevt.org

LORD'S DAY MORNING WORSHIP

December 14, 2025



GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

O Holy Night
(Placide Cappeau, translated by John S. Dwight)

Salutation & Call to Worship

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

* Opening Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful
208 Trinity Hymnal (verses 1-2 & 4)

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him
born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2 God of God, Light of Light;
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb; very God,
begotten, not created; **[Refrain]**

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n; Word of the Father,
late in flesh appearing; **[Refrain]****

Invocation & Lord's Prayer

God's Law (unison)

1. You shall have no other gods before me.

Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only. Matt 4:10

2. You shall not make for yourself an idol....You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

God is Spirit, and his worshipers must worship in Spirit and in truth.
John 4:24

3 You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God....

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.....Mt 6:9

(Continued on page 2)

4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God.
**...Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith...
Let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.** Heb 10:22-25
5. Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.
Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right....Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Eph 6:1-4
6. You shall not murder.
Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Eph 4:31
7. You shall not commit adultery.
Among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality....Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord....Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.... Eph 5:3, 22-25
8. You shall not steal.
He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. Eph 4:28
9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. Eph 4:28
10. You shall not covet...anything that belongs to your neighbor.
Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!....I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. Phil 4:4-12

Assurance of Pardon Luke 9:28-31 (p. 1030 pew Bible)

COPC Choir *Magnificat (My Soul Will Magnify The Lord)*

COPC Choir & Congregation Carol Hark The Herald Angels Sing
#203 *Trinity Hymnal (all verses)*

1 Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. **[Refrain]**
- 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. **[Refrain]****

Prayer of Dedication & Offering

**Gloria Patri* #735 *Trinity Hymnal*

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Matthew 2:11-15 (p. 960 pew Bible)

Sermon Out of Egypt I Called My Son

Prayer of Application and Lord's Supper

*** Closing Carol** *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come*
195 *Trinity Hymnal* (verses 1, 3 & 4)

- 1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

*** Benediction**

*** Doxology** #731 *Trinity Hymnal*

* Please stand if able
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