



# Nassau Presbyterian Church

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December 31, 2017 10:00 AM

Children are always welcome in our services. Today, after the second story (pg 3) children age three to grade one may go to a Bible story and craft time in Room 07 (Lower Level).

### \*Call to Worship

At the sign \* you may stand. Bold text is read or sung in unison.

Christ is born!

**Alleluia!**

Jesus is among us!

**Alleluia!**

Shout with joy, give thanks, and sing!

**Christ is born!**

Shout with joy, give thanks, and sing!

**Christ is born!**

Shout with joy, give thanks, and sing!

**Christ is born!**

### \*Prayer of Adoration

**Saving God,**

**the prophet Anna and righteous Simeon sang your praise**

**and proclaimed Jesus, our Lord,**

**to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.**

**We seek redemption in our day.**

**Prepare our hearts to believe the good news of Jesus,**

**receive the light of salvation,**

**and live according to your word.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### \*Opening Hymn

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” [127]

*Hymn* indicates the red pew hymnal *Glory to God*.

## Prayer of Confession

**Holy and loving God,  
we look for you in the joyous, festive, and holy places.  
Forgive us when we do not look for you  
in the hard times and the painful places  
or among those who are abused or forgotten,  
homeless or hungry.  
We listen to Christmas stories and sing Christmas carols.  
Forgive us when we fail to notice what you teach us,  
what you ask of us, in the stories of the birth and life of Jesus.  
As we celebrate the birth of one born homeless,  
who lived in poverty,  
whose family fled in fear for their lives,  
pursued by a ruthless dictator,  
help us to remember your compassion and care  
for all who are vulnerable and in need.  
Forgive us when we forget what Jesus showed us by his life,  
and move us to respond to your gracious gift of love  
by lovingly opening our arms to all people. Amen.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

In God's mercy, God offers forgiveness and salvation.  
**In love God redeems us, lifts us up, and carries us.  
Thanks be to God!**

\*Response of Praise      "O Come, All Ye Faithful" [133]

Verse 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!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

## Words of Welcome

# The Story of the Birth and Early Life of Christ

Readings from the Common English Bible

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*The Birth of Jesus.* Matthew 1:18-24

“Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child”  
[Hymn 126]

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*Jesus Is Presented in the Jerusalem Temple.* Luke 2:21-38

“Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple”  
[Hymn 148]

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*The Magi Come to Honor Jesus.* Matthew 2:1-12

*Herod Tries to Protect His Kingdom.* Matthew 2:16-18

“In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy”  
[Hymn 153]

Soloist sings verses 1 and 3

Congregation sings verse 2 and 4

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*Joseph, Mary, and Jesus Escape to Egypt.* Matthew 2:13-15

“Jesus Entered Egypt”  
[Hymn 154]

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*Joseph, Mary, and Jesus Return from Egypt. Matthew 2:19-23*

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

[Psalter 72 A, pg 440]

*Psalter indicates the blue pew psalter Psalms for All Seasons.*

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Offertory

“Simeon”

Peter Cornelius

Then came the aged father, the pious Simeon,  
and in the sacred temple beheld the infant son;  
and now his face illumined with ray of wondrous love,  
he speaks as though a prophet, praising his God above:  
“Now lettest thou thy servant peacefully, Lord, depart,  
for he has seen the Savior, and happy is his heart;  
thus to the world thou sent him, joining our human race,  
and with his heavenly glory, redeeming us through grace!”  
With wondering looks they heard it, the parents of the boy,  
and then they bore him homeward, overcome with silent joy.

\*Hymn

“He Came Down” [137]

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn

“Joy to the World” [134]  
Hunger Offering

\*Benediction

Postlude

“God Rest Ye Merry”

Alfred Fedak

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Liturgists

Rozlyn Anderson Flood

Mani Pulimood

Monisha Pulimood

Nikhil Pulimood

Philip Pulimood

Joyce MacKichan Walker

J. Michael Walker

Time with Children

Corrie Berg

Musicians

Elem Eley, soloist

Noel Werner, organ

Cover

“Cross and Sun Rays,” a linocut by

Elizabeth Steele Halstead

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# The Week Ahead

January 1 – 7

## Monday, Jan. 1

Office Closed - New Year's Day

## Tuesday, Jan. 2

9:30 AM *Staff Devotions*  
Niles Chapel

10:30 AM *Staff Meeting*  
Conference Room

## Wednesday, Jan. 3

7:30 PM *Adult Choir*  
Music Room

## Thursday, Jan. 4

9:00 AM *Walk Talk Pray*  
Meet on front steps

10:00 AM *Al-Anon*  
Conference Room

## Friday, Jan. 5

7:00 AM *Women's Early Morning Bible Study*  
Contact Doodie Meyer  
(609-275-9647)

7:30 AM *Men's Breakfast*  
Assembly Room

## Saturday, Jan. 6

No scheduled events

## Sunday, Jan. 7

9:15 AM *Education for all ages*  
Assembly Room & classrooms

9:15 AM *First Corinthians Class with George Hunsinger*  
Maclean House

9:15 AM *Worship – Communion*  
Sanctuary

10:15 AM *Fellowship*  
Assembly Room

11:00 AM *Worship – Communion*  
Sanctuary

11:15 AM *Worship Explorers*  
Room 302

2:00 PM *Interfaith Stitches*  
Assembly Room

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## Today at Nassau

Worship

10:00 AM *Sanctuary*

Fellowship

11:00 AM *Assembly Room*

## Welcome to Nassau Church

*Children.* Children are always welcome in our services of worship.

Childcare is available for infants and toddlers in the Nursery (Lower Level).

We invite children age three to grade one to a Bible story and craft time in Room 07 (Lower Level).

Church School for children and youth, preschool age to grade 12, resumes on Sunday, January 7.

*Order CDs of the service.* Stop by the sound room.

*Connect to our online community life.* Visit [nassauchurch.org](http://nassauchurch.org) for information and join our Facebook group for community life. Follow our Facebook page and Twitter and Instagram feeds (@nassauchurch) for news, recaps of events, and snapshots of life at Nassau.

*Connect to pastors or staff.* Contact the office.

*Online giving.* See “Give Now” on the website or give via the Church Life app.

*Accessibility.* The church lot has reserved parking, and there are six reserved street spaces on Sundays. Ramp access to the building is from the parking lot. Ask an usher for an assistive hearing device, a large-print bulletin or hymnal, an accessible pew, or a wheelchair. Ushers can also direct you to the elevator to access other floors.

61 Nassau Street, Princeton, New Jersey 08542  
609-924-0103 [nassauchurch.org](http://nassauchurch.org)

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