The New Utrecht Reformed Church Christmas Eve Morning Service 24th of December 2006

We are a Friendly People seeking to Share Christ's Love!

We Welcome You to our Worship!



The New Utrecht Reformed Church, its deacons, elders and ministers, wish all of you a blessed celebration of Christ's birth. We wish you the blessings of family and home. We wish our world the blessings of peace and justice. Let us wait & work for the final Christmas;

The Reformed Church in America is a fellowship of congregations called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be the very presence of Jesus Christ in the world.

18th Avenue between 83rd and 84th Streets Post Office Box 97 Brooklyn, New York 11214 * 718–236–0678 Visit our Website: <u>www.newutrechtchurch.org</u> Vincent La Marca, Webmaster

Ministers, The People of New Utrecht and The Reverends Terry Troia & Robert Peterson Consistory Vice-President, Elder Susan Hanyen

The Members of the Consistory

Board of Elders_Erik Ander, Pam Ander, Susan Hanyen, Rita Hollenga

Board of Deacons_ Carol Dickert, Rose Lood, Deborah Siciargo, Marilyn Sciarrino

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Introit "In the Lonely Midnight"

The Lighting of the Candles

This night is the eve of the great nativity, BORN IS THE SON OF MARY THE VIRGIN The soles of his feet have reached the earth, THE SON OF GLORY DOWN FROM ON HIGH, Heaven and earth glowed to him, ALL HAIL! LET THERE BE JOY!

The peace of earth to him, the joy of Heaven to him, THE HOMAGE OF A KING TO BE HIS, The welcome of a lamb be his, KING ALL VICTORIOUS, LAMB ALL GLORIOUS, Earth and ocean illumed to him, ALL HAIL! LET THERE BE JOY!

The mountains glowed to him, the plains glowed to him,

THE VOICE OF THE WAVES WITH THE SONG OF THE STRAND,

Announcing to us that Christ is born,

SON OF THE KING OF KINGS FROM THE LAND OF SALVATION;

Shone the sun on the mountains high to him, ALL HAIL! LET THERE BE JOY!

Shone to him the earth and sphere together, GOD THE LORD HAS OPENED A DOOR;

Son of Mary Virgin, hasten thou to help me, THOU CHRIST OF HOPE, THOU DOOR OF JOY,

Golden Sun of hill and mountain, ALL HAIL! LET THERE BE JOY!

*Hymn 145 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Unison Prayer: GOD AND FATHER OF JESUS, ON THIS HOLY NIGHT YOU GIVE US YOUR SON, THE LORD OF THE UNIVERSE AND THE SAVIOR OF ALL PEOPLES, AS AN INFANT WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES AND LYING IN A MANGER. IN THE FIRST MOMENTS OF HIS LIFE YOU SHOWED US THE PARADOX OF YOUR LOVE. OPEN US UP TO THE MYSTERY OF HIS POWERLESSNESS AND ENABLE US TO RECOGNIZE HIM IN THIS PLAIN SPOKEN WORD, IN THE EYES OF THE POOR, IN THE BREAKING OF BREAD. THIS WE ASK IN HIS NAME, HE WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.

Kyrie "LORD HAVE MERCY UPON US. CHRIST HAVE MERCY UPON US. LORD HAVE MERCY UPON US."

The Word of Assurance Isaiah 9:2-7

Anthem: "The Bells of Bethlehem" and "Sing Gloria"



THE WORD OF GOD

*Responsive Reading: Luke 1: 68-79 "Zechariah's Canticle"

*Gloria Patri (Hymn No 623 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY GHOST. AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END, AMEN!

The Greeting of Peace, followed by the announcements.

The Scripture Lessons for the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve

Jewish Scriptures: Micah 5: 2-5 a

Epistle: Titus 2: 11-14

Anthem "I Wonder as I Wander" J. Niles

Advent Gospel: Luke 1: 26 – 45 Hymn "The Angel Gabriel"

The Christmas Gospel: Luke 2: 1-19



LET US RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST:

This day true peace has come down to us from heaven,

THIS DAY THE HEAVENS DRIP HONEY UPON THE ENTIRE WORLD!

This day brought the day of new redemption,

OF THE DELIVERANCE ANNOUNCED OF OLD, OF ETERNAL HAPPINESS!

Let us day with delight in the Lord

AND LET OUR HEARTS BE FILLED WITH REJOICING,

For eternal salvation has appeared on the earth,

LET ALL THE EARTH BOW TO YOU & SING TO YOU, LET ALL SING YOUR

NAME MOST HIGH! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

*Hymn 133 "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing!"

Christmas Meditation

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Hymn 147 "Silent Night"

*The Apostle's Creed

*The Offering, Doxology (625) and Prayer PRAISE GOD FROM ALL WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW; PRAISE GOD ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW; PRAISE GOD ABOVE YE HEAVENLY HOSTS; PRAISE FATHER (CREATOR), SON (CHRIST) AND HOLY GHOST.

Giving Thanks to God

The Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn 132 "Angels We Have Heard On High"

* The Benediction

*Choral Response "Ring the Bells" Bollback

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

The angel Gabriel

