

Calvary Protestant Evangelical Free Church

2801 Park Avenue, Baldwin, NY 11510

Pastor Charles Lucchesi 516-223-4070

E-mail: calvarychurch@optonline.net Website: www.cpcbaldwin.com



CALVARY CHRONICLE

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The Uniqueness Of Christmas Carols

By Sotar Lloyd

Christmas is a time of the year that immediately invoke the celebration of joyfulness, happiness, festive of cheer and generosity. It is a season that transforms the atmosphere into a delightful feeling of togetherness which Christmas Carols greatly contributes to this sweet, sweet celebration. Why? Because Christmas Carols have an unforgettable attribute seems ageless and added to the joyous moment. But many of these classical popular Carols were composed only in recent time. For example, “Joy to the World”; “O Come Let Us Adore Him”; “Silent Night”; “O Come, All Ye Faithful” and “We Three Kings” are Christmas Carols dated in the 18th and 19th century.

Christmas Carols came of age in the 13th century. However, before the 13th century these timeless songs were not called Christmas Carols but Christmas Hymns. And only Church official were allowed to sing these hymns. The hymns were not popular because they were composed and sung in Latin in a liturgical format which the common people were unable to understand or translate into their native language. Such Christmas Hymn was *Jesus Refulsit Omnium*. It is the “... oldest Christmas Carol [Hymn] historians have knowledge of is a 4th century motet or Epiphany: ‘*Jesus Refulsit Omnium*’ – *Jesus, Light of All the Nations* – exactly translating *Jesus, the brilliance of all*. It depicts the sudden realization that enlightened the Magi, the Wise Men, when they finally arrived to the stable where infant Jesus had been born and it was created by St. Hilary of Poitiers between 310 – 367 (most probably without any instrumental backing)” (<https://alluringcreations.co.za/wp/oldest-christmas-carol> 10/20/21).

Jesus Refulsit Omnium is one of the earliest Christmas Hymn developed by the Church. It is a purely choral piece that was composed before the use of instruments in the liturgy.

*“Jesus refulsit omnium
Pius redemptor gentium
Totum genus fidelium
Laudes celebret dramatum*

*Quem stella natum fulgida
Monstrat micans per aethera
Magosque duxit praevia
Ipsius ad cunabula*

*Illi cadentes parvulum
Pannis adorant obsitum
Verum fatentur ut Deum
Munus ferendo mysticum.”*

Jesus Refulsit Omnium was translated into English by Kevin Hawthorne, PhD

*“‘Jesus, devoted redeemer of all nations, has shone forth,
Let the whole family of the faithful celebrate the stories*

*The shining star, gleaming in the heavens, makes him known at his birth and,
going before, has led the Magi to his cradle*

*Falling down, they adore the tiny baby hidden in rags,
as they bear witness to the true God by bringing a mystical gift.”*

(<https://alluringcreations.co.za/wp/oldest-christmas-carol-jesus-refulsit-omnium/> 10/18/21).

(continued on next page)

The desire to change this practice of Christmas Hymns was initiated in the 15th century when the common people wanted to celebrate Christmas with songs in their own language proclaiming the birth of Jesus. This was greatly influenced by St Francis of Assisi. As time progressed Christmas Carols gained in popularity in the 17th century developing into the traditional Christmas Carols that we greatly enjoy today.

Merry Christmas

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Advent means “coming” or “arrival.” The Advent season is traditionally observed starting four Sundays before Christmas with scripture readings, carols, lighting of candles, and prayer as we await the coming of Christmas, Christ’s birth.

It is customary to use an evergreen wreath with five candles: four around the wreath and one in the center. The circle of the wreath reminds us of the continuous power of God, His eternity and endless mercy, which has no beginning or end. The green of the wreath speaks of the hope that we have in God, the hope of newness, or renewal, of eternal life.

The candles symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His Son, Jesus. The four outer candles represent the waiting during the four Sundays of Advent, which symbolize the four centuries of waiting between the prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ. The center candle represents the heart of the Christmas season, the birth of Jesus Christ.

The colors of the candles are customarily three purple or blue candles (symbolizing Christ’s royalty), one pink or rose candle (symbolizing the joy that Christ was born) which is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, and a white candle, called the Christ candle, which is placed on the center of the ring.

The light of the candle reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world that comes into the darkness to bring newness, life, and hope. It also reminds us that we are called to be the light of the world as we reflect the light of God’s grace to others. As the candles are lit over the four-week period, it symbolizes the darkness of fear and hopelessness receding and the shadows of sin falling away as more and more light is shed into the world. The flame of each new candle reminds us that more is yet to come.

The first Sunday of Advent is traditionally the candle of Hope or Expectation. Sequence of the remaining three Sundays maybe associated with different aspects of the Advent story. This year Calvary has chosen Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Hope: at the anticipation of the coming of a Messiah, and also as we await His second coming. Peace: inner peace we obtain when believing in Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Joy: the joy when hearing the Good News that a Savior has come and then telling others the joyful news. Love: the endless love of God to send His Son to die for us so we can have eternal life. The final Christ candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day as we rejoice that the promise of long ago had been fulfilled when Christ was born.

The focus on the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ in His First Advent and the anticipation of the return of Christ in His Second Advent. It is celebrating the truth about God.

DEVOTIONAL

By Sotar Lloyd

Word for Thought

Did you say good morning to your Creator before you say your prayers this morning?

Good morning my Heavenly Father, Good morning my Lord Jesus Christ, Good morning Holy Spirit, Good morning Holy Trinity in Jesus holy name.

Did you say hello to your Creator sometime today to acknowledge His presence?

Hello my Heavenly Father, Hello my Lord Jesus Christ, Hello Holy Spirit, Hello Holy Trinity in Jesus holy name.

Do you remember to say good night to your Creator before going to bed?

Good night my Heavenly Father, Good night my Lord Jesus Christ, Good night Holy Spirit, Good night Holy Trinity in Jesus holy name.

Always remember God is constantly present with you/us and acknowledging His presence pleases Him. For our greatest desire in life should be to please God (Psalm 139, 2 Corinthians 5:9).

Dying to Self-Devotional

Using the acronym P.A.C.E. in ones' daily devotional is bringing into focus ones' life is in God's hands. Is this an easy process? "No! I say..." Because that is not our nature after the fall of mankind (Genesis 3). We always want to be master of our lives. So, praying in this form can be difficult. The desire to live a life depending upon God alone can only be achieve by His grace through His beloved Son, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please note for each letter I provided an example of the prayer. Pray the way the Holy Spirit leads you...

P- Praise: Give God the recognition He rightful deserve,

Example: "Praise the LORD, my soul. LORD my God, You are great; You are clothed with splendor and majesty..." (Psalm 104:1) ..." Praise God the way you are led by the Holy Spirit to praise Him.

A- Accept: To receive what is placed before you with a consent mind to God.

Example: "Lord by Your grace and strength I accept what You have given me today..."

C- Commit: An action of agreement with God;

Example: "Lord by Your grace and mercy I commit this day You have granted me into Your hands...I commit my family into Your hands (call them by name if you like), I commit my health into Your hands..."

E- Expect: God's promises are absolute. Therefore, we expect God to do exactly what He say He will do (2 Corinthians 1:20; Psalm 77:8)

Example: "Lord by Your grace and mercy I expect You to do what You say You will do in Your word..."

In Jesus holy name. Amen.

In Jesus name...Amen.

Publications

The new quarter of Our Daily Bread, November issues of Daily Walk and Today's Christian Living, Keys for Kids (daily devotionals), and Unlocked (daily readings for teens) are available

Sharon Knoernschild's New Chapter in Life

Our dear beloved Sharon who served our Church— Calvary Protestant for almost twenty years has retired. She has a new calling, to serve her first grandchild. On behalf of Pastor Lucchesi and the Church family of Calvary Protestant we would like to thank Sharon for her faithful service in God's House. Many blessing to Sharon and her new call of duty in ministry.



Sharon Knoernschild



Sharon Knoernschild and Charlie Hetzel



Sharon retirement celebration

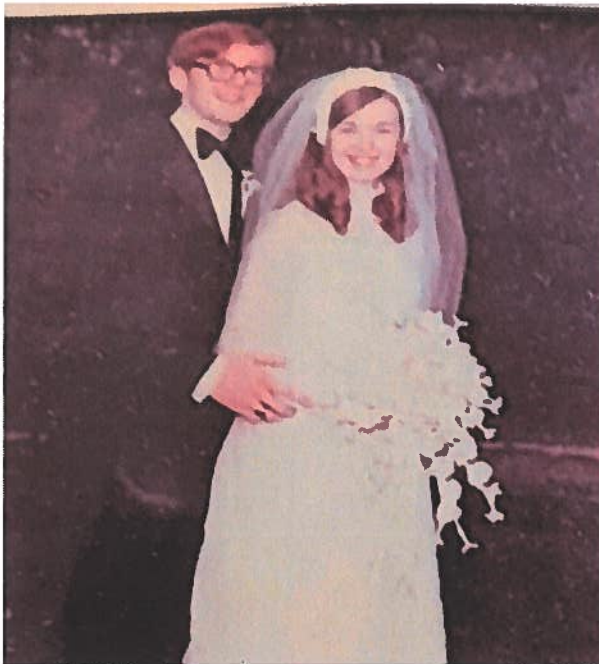


Sharon gives her retirement speech

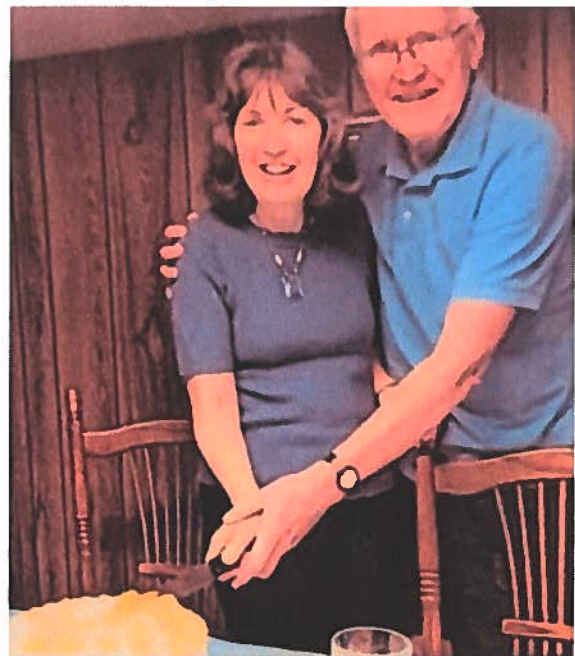
Laura K. Moon decorated Calvary Protestant Church, Thanksgiving Harvest Table for over forty years. Today this spiritual mantle was passed on to Mrs. Moon's daughter Sharon Knoernschild. Mrs. Knoernschild has fulfilled her call of duty in God's House close to twenty years. This year Mrs. Knoernschild skillful gift, decorating the Thanksgiving Harvest Table, displayed beautifully giving Calvary Protestant Church a sweet, sweet touch of Thanksgiving 2021 celebration.



In September 2021 Tom and Peggy Corcoran celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. On behalf of Pastor Charles Lucchesi and Calvary Protestant Church family congratulation Mr. & Mrs. Corcoran. We wish you both an anniversary as special as the love you both share and may your bond together continue in much love, cherish and honor for one another for the years to come. Blessings to you both from your Church family.



September 1971



September 2021

BEHOLD NOW IS THE DAY OF SALVATION

The preaching and the teaching of God's Word do not ends at the close of any gathering. But it continues to ring in the atmosphere from corner to corner in the halls of Calvary Protestant Church, reminding us God's Word is continuous because His "...words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35). See above and below some of His the walls that echo His

ONLY JESUS SAVES

written Word on around the church spoken truth.

GOOD
MORNING
HOLY
SPIRIT

God wants
Christians to
treat each other
with loving care

GOD'S
RICHES
AT
CHRIST'S
EXPENSE

TRUST
IN THE
LORD

Church Updates

The Sunday worship service is at 11:00 a.m. We strongly encourage everyone to please wear a face mask out of consideration for one another. There is plenty of seating in order to practice physical distancing. The sermon will continue to be recorded and posted on-line for all to view:

Visit the church website (www.cpcbaldwin.com - click on "YouTube") and also streamed on YouTube at (www.youtube.com - search for Calvary Church, Baldwin, NY).

Adult Sunday School Class— We are happy to announce that the Adult Sunday School Class will resume on Sunday, December 12th, at 9:45 a.m. The adults will begin a study on the Book of Esther.

Children's Church is held during the service. The children are dismissed just before the sermon and meet in the fellowship room. On the first Sunday of each month (when Communion is scheduled) Children's Church will not be in session.

The Wednesday Night Bible Study meets at the church at 7:00 p.m. The men and women are starting a new study on the Book of Ephesians, and also have a time of prayer.

The Ladies Bible Study meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Patti Senita's home. They are continuing their study of the Book of Acts.

The most current information is sent out weekly in the Friday e-mail communications. If you have not been receiving any e-mails from the church, please let us know and we will gladly add you to the list.

LOOKING AHEADING IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Decorating the church - Monday, December 6th

Seniors Luncheon-Tuesday, December 7th: As usual, the luncheon will begin at 12:00 noon. Chef Ralph is already thinking ahead on what will be on the menu. It is very helpful to let us know that you will be attending. Please call the church office (516-223-4070) to R.S.V.P.

Christmas Eve Service - Friday, December 24th

Collection for the men and women: The Ladies Bible Study will be preparing Christmas gift bags for the men at Recovery House and women at Mercy Hall. The following is a short list of items: new or gently used clothing, toiletries, stationery items, and miscellaneous items such as mugs, cups, thermos, umbrella, and games. Items can be brought to the church and placed on the designated tables in the adult Sunday School room. Any questions, speak to Patti Senita, Trudy Hetzel, or Kathy Guerin.

Updating The Church Directory

It's time to update the Church Directory - Calvary's phone book for family and friends. Included are names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mails, etc., plus other church related information. If there are any recent changes to what is currently listed, or if you would like to be added to the directory, please contact the church or your info to Sharon. You can call the church office (516-223-4070) or e-mail (calvarychurch@optonline.net).

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2801 Park Avenue
Baldwin, NY 11510

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER

1st Lauren Nicolich
6th Trevor Watts
9th Mary Kaspar
10th Noelle Nehring
11th Daishaun Elliott
15th Anthony Alex Ramos
20th Stephanie Verity
21st Diane Benedetto
24th Wren Waldvogel
25th Sean Deedy
27th David Manuel
31st Dylan Rose

JANUARY

1st Martha Mietenkorte
3rd David Brewster
4th Gregory Dapice
5th Magalie Alcindor
6th Fitz Alcindor Sr.
8th Matthew Lucchesi
9th Lorna Bigby
9th Steven Elcock
14th Dorothy Brown
16th Bob Benedetto
18th Raynell Falden
21st Eugene Lloyd
22nd Wally Capasso
22nd Erin Waldvogel
24th Magaline Alcindor
24th Vincent Rotolo
24th Tim Waldvogel
24th Finch Waldvogel
27th Dave Senita
29th Roy Knoernschild
29th Allison Linhart
30th Ralph Rose II
31st Chris Watts

**Happy
Birthday!**

ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

26th Carmine & Mary Jo Dapice
31st Jim & Terry Tucci

JANUARY

4th Charles & Barbara Lucchesi
21st Joe & Louise Fazzino
24th Matt & Karen Linhart