

## Weekly Schedule:

### Sundays:

Worship Service 14:00 - 15:30  
Pre-school - Children's Bible Study 14:00 - 15:30  
We have an excellent Bible study and children's program for your children during the worship service for the youth and adults. We encourage you to allow your children to go with the other children as they leave the worship service together with the teachers.

### Wednesdays:

Prayer Service & Bible Study 18:30 - 19:30

### Fridays: (at Pastor's home in Wesseling)

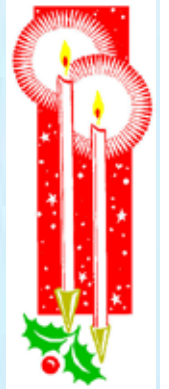
Choir Rehearsal 18:30 - 19:30

### Church Leadership:

Interim Pastor	Calvin Hogue Home nr. 02236 331 3023 Cell phone nr. 0173 145 3618
Pastor	Lorin Cranford lorin.cranford@gmail.com Home nr. 02236 702 5102
Evangelism	Billy D'Almeida evangelism@ibc-cologne.com
Welcome	Vivian von Piechowski welcome@ibc-cologne.com
Church Secretary	Linda Akinyi-Okundaye churchsecretary@ibc-cologne.com
Worship Ministry	Solomon Idemudia worship-ministry@ibc-cologne.com
Children's Ministry	Marianne D'Almeida children@ibc-cologne.com
Treasurer	Kingsley Edosomwan treasury@ibc-cologne.com
Financial Secretary	Francis Adoga finance@ibc-cologne.com

*The International Baptist Church of Cologne is a congregation of believers who gather to worship our God through Jesus Christ, His Son. We strive to be a caring and loving group of Christians who give faithful witness to the salvation available to all through faith in Jesus Christ. Our congregation is a participating member of the International Baptist Convention and the Bund Evangelisch-Freikirchlicher Gemeinden in Deutschland.*

**IBC - International Baptist Church Cologne**  
Postfach 800518  
D - 51005 Koeln



# The Worship of God

SUNDAY 10:30



25 DECEMBER 2008

We welcome you to worship with us.

**Escher Straße 160**  
**50739 Bilderstöckchen Köln**

[ibc-cologne.com](http://ibc-cologne.com)





25 December 2008  
**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
 in  
 Celebrating Christ's Birth



Call to Worship  
 Christmas Carol,  
 Invocation<sup>1</sup>  
 Welcome and Announcements

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Alison Edwards  
 Henry Okundaye  
 Linda Akinyi-Okundaye

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Christmas Carol, "The First Noel"  
 Reading the Christ Story, Matt. 2:1-8  
 Christmas Carol, "Silent Night"  
 Sharing What Christmas Means to Me,

Nosa Okundaye  
 Congregation

Reading the Christ Story, Luke 2:8-20  
 Christmas Carol, "O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
 Operatory Prayer

Betty Edessa  
 Solomon Idemudia

Receiving the Tithes and Offerings<sup>2</sup>  
 Christmas Carol, "Away in a Manger"  
 Sharing How I Came to Know Christ

Congregation

Reading the Christ Story, John 1:1-5, 14-18  
 Special Music, Linda Akinyi-Okundaye & Betty Edessa  
 "Furaha kwa Ulimwengu"

Dean Edwards

Proclaiming the Word, "What child is this?"  
 Hymn of Invitation, "Just As I Am"  
 The Benediction  
 Christmas Carol, "Joy to the World"

Alison Edwards  
 Hymn nr. 187  
 Alison Edwards

**An Invitation:**

Anyone who feels led of God to profess faith in Christ is invited to come forward to the front of the sanctuary during the Invitation time at the end of the sermon. Sister Edwards will greet you and help you publicly confess faith in Christ as Savior and Lord. Those wishing to join the church by transfer of church letter should come forward at this time as well. Additionally, those wishing to rededicate themselves to serving Christ should come forward.

<sup>1</sup>We have an excellent Bible study and children's program for your children during the worship service for the youth and adults. Just after the end of the invocational prayer we encourage you to allow your children to go with the other children as they leave the worship service together with the teachers

<sup>2</sup>Our congregation is a Free Church and thus receives financial support only from the free will offerings of the members and others who wish to contribute to the ministries of the church. For fund transfer, use the following information for the church: Kölner Bank, BLZ: 37160087; Konto, 680020000.

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" -- Lk. 2:14

**Important Dates to Remember:**

**Dec. 28 Farewell Service for Pastor & Mrs. Hogue (2:00 pm)**  
 Special recognition activities are being planned, along with a Pot Luck Dinner following the service at 2:00 pm. You will want to plan to be present.



**Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Service with Pastor Lorin & Claire (9:00 pm)**  
 Pot Luck Dinner with the service. Praise music & a special message from Pastor Lorin. We will pray in the New Year as has been the recent tradition of the church.

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM PASTOR LORIN**

On this most special of all the days of the year, Claire and I want to express our Christmas greetings to every person in the service. We anxiously look forward to sharing in this service with you next year. The celebration of Christmas in Europe has very different tones than is true in the United States. One of the most notable differences is the gathering of God's people at church on Christmas day. Only a very few church traditions in the US have such a practice, and Baptists are not one of them unfortunately.



We rejoice that you have chosen to come together as God's spiritual family to celebrate the birth of our Savior. On this most holy of days we celebrate the beginning of new hope, and the possibility of new beginnings. Our Savior gives to us such opportunity in the most incredible life-changing experience of our existence. When we meet Him in confession and faith commitment, He changes us, inside and out. The old passes away and all things become new, as the apostle Paul declared.

So as you worship and celebrate Christ's birth this morning, may your song indeed become:

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
 Let earth receive her King;  
 Let every heart prepare Him room,  
 and heaven and nature sing...

We will see you New Year's eve, and if not then, on Sunday Jan. 4.

*Pastor Lorin & Claire*

## Hymn Texts:

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.

Sing, alleluia,  
All ye choirs of angels;  
O sing, all ye blissful ones of heav'n above.  
Glory to God -  
In the highest glory!  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be the glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in the flesh appearing,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

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### The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as  
they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their  
sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the the East, beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a King was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

This star drew night to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

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### Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.

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### O Little Town Of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth!

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### Away In A Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet  
head.

The stars in the sky looked down where  
he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from  
the sky  
And stay by my cradle til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to  
stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender  
care,  
And take us to heaven, to live with Thee  
there.

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### Joy To The World

Joy to the world! the Lord is 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 earth! the Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessing flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

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.



## The Christmas Story in Scripture

### Matthew 2:1-8 (NLT)

Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We have seen his star as it arose, and we have come to worship him." Herod was deeply disturbed by their question, as was all of Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law. "Where did the prophets say the Messiah would be born?" he asked them. "In Bethlehem," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote: 'O Bethlehem of Judah, you are not just a lowly village in Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'" Then Herod sent a private message to the wise men, asking them to come see him. At this meeting he learned the exact time when they first saw the star. Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

### Luke 2:8-20 (NLT)

That night some shepherds were in the fields outside the village, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terribly frightened, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news of great joy for everyone! The Savior – yes, the Messiah, the Lord – has been born tonight in Bethlehem, the city of David! And this is how you will recognize him: You will find a baby lying in a manger, wrapped snugly in strips of cloth!" Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others – the armies of heaven – praising God: "Glo-

ry to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to all whom God favors." When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Come on, let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this wonderful thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." They ran to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. Then the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, but Mary quietly treasured these things in her heart and thought about them often. 20 The shepherds went back to their fields and flocks, glorifying and praising God for what the angels had told them, and because they had seen the child, just as the angel had said.

### John 1:1-5, 14-18 (NLT)

In the beginning the Word already existed. He was with God, and he was God. He was in the beginning with God. He created everything there is. Nothing exists that he didn't make. Life itself was in him, and this life gives light to everyone. The light shines through the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it...

So the Word became human and lived here on earth among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father. John pointed him out to the people. He shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before I did.'" We have all benefited from the rich blessings he brought to us – one gracious blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. But his only Son, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart; he has told us about him.