



**Christmas
Eve
at
Resurrection
Lutheran Church**

**Friday, December 24, 2021
5:30 pm**

Prelude

The Procession of Light

The Light for the Advent Wreath is carried in. After the Christ candle is lit on the Advent Wreath, all will stand for the dialog.

The Dialog

To us, watchful and waiting, light has come into our midst.

A tiny child, born in a manger;

A gift of peace to troubled souls and dangerous streets;

A gift of joy to sad hearts and cautious lives;

A gift of hope to wearied brows and oppressed peoples;

A tiny child, gift of God;

Open your hearts; raise your songs;

Give thanks to the giver; welcome the gift.

The Hymn (NO. 283)

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:

Chorus O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;

Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!

Chorus

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God In the highest:

Chorus

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father,

Now in flesh appearing:

Chorus

The Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Special Music

"O HOLY NIGHT"

Solo
Bayne Haigler

The First Lesson - Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined.
³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Second Lesson - Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Hymn of Praise NO:289

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Chorus Gloria in excelsis Deo,
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?

Chorus

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.

Chorus

The Gospel – The Christmas Story from Luke 2:1-20

All children are invited to come forward and sit in the aisle for the reading.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

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

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it

were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Children's Message

The Meditation

Pastor Eric S. Little

The Hymn of the Day (NO. 277)

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

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

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary**



**and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers

Rejoicing in the good news of Christ's birth and dwelling in hope, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Holy God, from you comes all grace and righteousness. Bind your church together during this Christmas season, that we bear witness to the truth of the gospel throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, all creation reveals your splendor and majesty. Guide us in caring for the earth and all it contains, and bring about favorable weather during this time of travel. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, in the midst of chaos, your Son was born for us. Instill in politicians, military leaders, and civil servants a desire for justice and peace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, you care for your children in this and every place. Grant relief to those in fear, shelter to the homeless, community to the isolated, joy to expectant parents, relief to those who yearn for children, and healing to the sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, protect those who travel, comfort those who are alone, accompany those who celebrate, and make your presence known among those who gather around word and sacrament. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, your Son became incarnate to provide salvation for all. Lead us by the example of the faithful departed as we await the blessed hope of the life to come. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Hear the prayers of your people, glorious God, for the sake of the one who took on our nature and form to redeem the whole world, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

The Offering

Special Music

The Offertory Response

Joy to the World (vs. 1)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive its 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.

Offertory Prayer

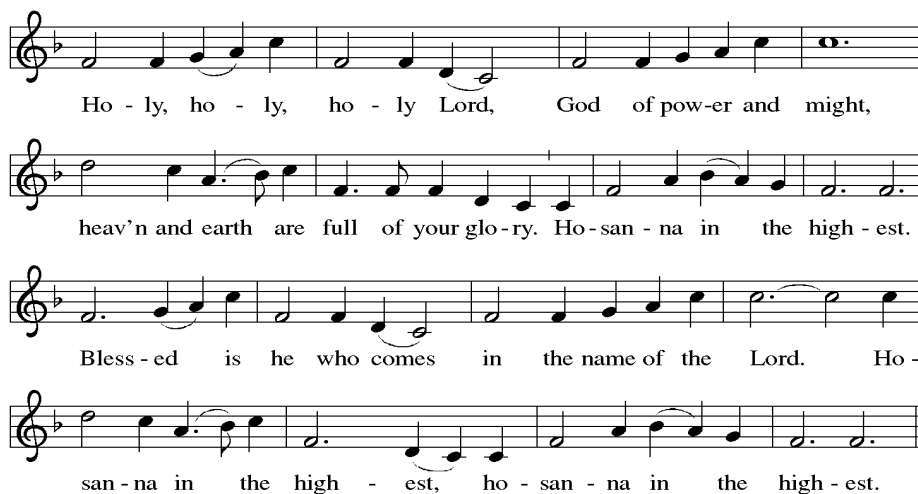
The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Distribution

All are invited to join in receiving the bread and wine. You do not have to be Lutheran. We will be receiving communion by intinction. Pastor Little will give you the wafer which you will dip into the wine in the chalice held by the communion assistant.

Hymns sung during communion— vs. 1 and 2 of the following:

270, 271, 279, 282, 288, 290

The Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

The Lighting of Candles

Arise, shine for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. The light of the world has shined upon us. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given. Arise, shine for your light has come.

Pastor Little will share the light from the Christ Candle on the Advent wreath with the ushers who will in turn light the candle of the first worshiper in each pew. Please pass the light to the person next to you. Please remember that a lighted candle is never tilted but always held upright when sharing the light.

Candle Lighting

The Hymn (NO. 281)

Silent Night, Holy 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 your holy face, With the dawn of redeeming
grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord at your birth.

The Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Benediction

May the stars be extra bright.
May the song of the angels be clear.
May the love of God hold you tonight, and
May God bring joy to you and all who are near.

Amen.



Please extinguish your candle.

The Recessional Hymn (NO. 300)

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.

Chorus Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
 Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Chorus

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.

Chorus

This star drew near 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.

Chorus

Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Chorus

The Dismissal

Filled with the joy of Christ's birth, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude



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