

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2022 A.D.
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*A Christ Caring People Who Gather Around Word and Sacrament,
Yoked Together, In Personal Service to Christ in World Wide Missions*



† DIVINE SERVICE †

OPENING HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

(LSB 379)

INVOCATION

- P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

CONFESSION *and* ABSOLUTION

- P God's angels appeared to his people with messages of great joy. Yet our hearts come before God carrying the weight of sadness and doubt. Like Zechariah, we wonder if God's message will come true. We hear his seemingly impossible promises, and our experiences tell us to curb our hope. Together we confess the limitations that we place upon God's word and his promises.

CONFESSION *and* ABSOLUTION

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

T WORD T

INTROIT

Psalm 2:1-2, 4-6 (antiphon: Liturgical text)

- P When all was still, and it was midnight,
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.
- C **Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?**
- P The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against his anointed.
- C **He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.**
- P Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
- C **“As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”**
- C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P When all was still, and it was midnight,
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.

KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA

“Once in Royal David’s City”

(LSB 376)

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray. O Lord God, you sent your angelic messenger to Joseph, comforting him with
the knowledge that you are in control. He acted in faith, knowing that your promises will
come true. Grant us the same confidence, that we would place our lives in your hands,
trusting in all you will give us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 9:2-7

(The promise of David's Son)

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM (2PM, 5PM)

"See, Amid the Winter's Snow"

(arr. Forrest)

Helen Kiepke, vocal soloist

ANTHEM (7:30PM)

"O Holy Night"

(arr. Hayes)

Helen Kiepke, vocal soloist

EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14

(Waiting for Christ's appearing)

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

(The birth of the Christ)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.

²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

"A Great and Mighty Wonder"

(LSB 383)

SERMON

"Peace that Renews Hope"

(Luke 2:13-14)

APOSTLES' CREED

Inside back cover of the Lutheran Service Book

OFFERING

- "That Silent Christmas Night" (arr. Poehlmann)
Mike Vasilie, tuba soloist (2PM)
- "All My Heart Again Rejoices" (arr. Beckstrand)
Andrew Wulf, flute soloist (5PM)
- "O Come, Little Children" (arr. Kathleen M. Basi)
Andrew Wulf, flute soloist (7:30PM)

OFFERTORY

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (LSB 380)

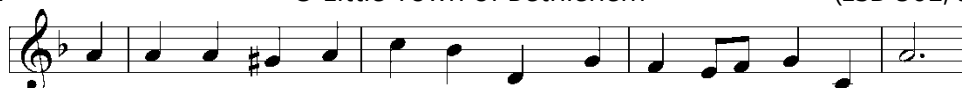
CHRISTMAS EVE HYMN CELEBRATION

P O Lord our God, your messengers the prophets spoke to your people, revealing your plan of salvation. In time, you would send your Son to the small town of Bethlehem, where his birth would begin all that you had in mind.



HYMN

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (LSB 361, sts. 1-2)



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
 While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to-night.
 And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!

P O Lord our God, you spoke to Joseph in a dream, confirming that he would be the earthly protector of your Son. As Joseph cared for Mary and Jesus, we pray that we would continually be vigilant of the places where he comes to us.

HYMN

"Away in a Manger"

(LSB 364)

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
 Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

The stars in the sky _____ looked down where He lay,
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.



P O Lord our God, your angel messenger Gabriel appeared to Mary, giving her good news of great joy. With her, we remember and celebrate your Son's birth. Nothing is impossible with

you, and we marvel at the ways you work in our world.

HYMN

"What Child Is This"

(LSB 370)



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar-y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar-y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar-y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar-y!

- P O Lord our God, a multitude of angels greeted the shepherds with singing. They sang of the peace and hope that comes in your Son, Jesus. Help us to sing his praises and to adore him at his manger, kneeling with the shepherds in wonder and awe.



HYMN

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

(LSB 367, sts. 1-2)

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Refrain
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

Lighting of Christmas Candles

(The first candle will be lit from the Christ Candle and the ushers will bring the light to the aisles. Please tip the unlit candles to light them. Do not tip lit candles.)

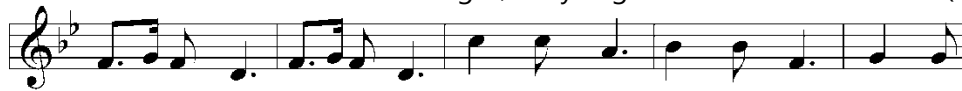


Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT
SERVICE

HYMN

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

(LSB 363)



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant



vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In-fant, so ten-der and mild,
stream from heav-en a - far, Heav'n-ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
beams from Thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re-deem - ing grace,



Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.



*Silent Night,
Holy Night*

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

(LSB 368)

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Brad & Susan Urbach
John & Carlene Barber
The Wulfs
Alberta Olson

Family of Robert ‘Mal’ Hinckley
Tim & Jan Larson

Marrill & Sandy Bales
Char Russell
Erbe Family
Monfore Family
Daris & Kelsey Kampfe
Kaylee & Kaden Kampfe
Lari & Linda Ott

James Family

In thanksgiving for our family
In thanksgiving for our family
In thanksgiving for our family
In memory of Julian Olson, Albert & Mette
Flansburg, Oran & Mina Mary Olson, Betty
Novak, & John Flansburg
To the Glory of our Heavenly Father
In memory of our aunts, Alice Rice & Lillian
Stofferahn
In memory of our parents
In memory of Jim Russell & Shirley English
In memory of Jerry Erbe
In memory of Brooks Monfore
In memory of Kelsey’s grandparents
In memory of Papa Dick Dunwoody
In memory of Cliff & Mary Ott and
In memory of LeeRoy & Irene Eisenbeisz
In thanksgiving for family

