

Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. ³You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. ⁴For as in the day of Midian’s defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. ⁵Every warrior’s boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Hymn: “Jesus, Name Above All Names”

**Vs. 1: Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

**Vs. 2: Jesus, loving Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of God.
Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Lord of the universe, Light of the world.**

**Vs. 3: Jesus, way of salvation King of Kings, Lord of Lords.
The Way, the truth, and the life Mighty Creator, My Savior and Friend.**

Reading: Luke 1:46b-55

⁴⁶And Mary said: My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

“Live In Me” written by Debbi St. John and sung by the Choir

Reading: Luke 2:1-8

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. ⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

“Little Baby Jesus” written by Debbi St. John and led by the Children

Hymn of the Day & Offering:

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

Offertory Response: “Away In A Manger” (Ushers bring offering forward)

**Verse 1: Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.**

**Verse 2: The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, 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.**

**Verse 3: Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay. Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

Offering Prayer: P: Let us pray.

C: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading: Luke 2:8-20

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” ¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

“What Child Is This”

**Vs 1: What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**Vs 2: Why lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**Vs 3: So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, Come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high The virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born The Babe, the son of Mary**

Children’s Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

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Gospel of the Incarnation: John 1:1-14

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,

C: He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made.

P: Without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, & that life was the light of all mankind.

C: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

C: The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

P: He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

C: Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

P: Children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

C: The Word became flesh and lived among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Pastor lights a large candle from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the light of the world of whom John’s gospel speaks. The ushers light their candles from the Pastor’s candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.

The Prayers: *(call and response) read by Amie Tipton*

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people. *A brief silence.* Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, & bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A child is born for us & light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night & attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. Be with all who are hurting in our community. Tonight we especially pray for, Keith Brown, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Shawn Fredrixon, Marc Bode, Harlan Reese, Beth Carlson, Gage Miller, Alex Stehr, Maria Starr Quiggle, Perry Fitzgerald, Tanya Bakken, Lorraine Hinsch, Jeff Ferkinhoff, Henry Strauss, Diane Krenke, Steve Pabst, Rollie Quade, and Chase Hanson. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

“Silent Night” led by the Children and “Peace, Peace” by the Choir

Choir: Peace, peace, peace on earth, and good will to all, This is a time for joy, this is a time for love,
Now let us all sing together of peace, peace, peace on earth.

Congregation & Children: Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. Round yon virgin mother & child.
Holy Infant, so tender & mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Congregation & Children “Silent Night” and Choir sings “Peace, Peace” (together):

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight: Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly 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 the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

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.**

Blessing: *The Pastor blesses the congregation.*

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

The candles are extinguished.

Departure Hymn: *“Joy to the World”*

Vs. 1: Joy to the world the Lord has come! Let earth receive its King; Let ev'ry 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.

Vs. 2: Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, While fields and floods, rocks, hills
and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Vs. 3: No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make his blessings
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

Vs. 4: 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.

Sending: P: Go in peace, shine your light! C: Thanks be to God!



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



St. Luke Lutheran Church

Pastor Eric Hanson

December 24, 2024 • 4:30PM

Prelude: *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

Vs 1: 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.

Vs 2: 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!

Vs 3: How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n. No ear may hear His coming But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him still The dear Christ enters in.

Vs 4: O holy Child of Bethlehem Descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born to us today We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell
Oh, come to us, abide with us Our Lord Immanuel

Welcome & Announcements

“When He Cometh” sung by Aleaha Hanson

Opening Hymn: *“Oh Come all ye Faithful”*

Vs. 1: Oh Come all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, Oh come ye oh come ye to Bethlehem,
Come and behold him born the king of angels, Oh come let us adore him,
Oh come let us adore him, Oh come let us adore him, Christ the Lord

Vs. 2: The highest most holy light of light eternal, Born of a virgin a mortal,
he comes Son of the father now in flesh appearing.
Oh come let us adore him, Oh come let us adore him, Oh come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Vs. 3: Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing all ye citizens of heaven above. Glory to God in the highest.
Oh come let us adore him, Oh come let us adore him, Oh come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Vs. 4: Yea Lord we greet thee, Born this happy morning, Jesus to thee be glory given,
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing. Oh come let us adore him, Oh come let us adore him,
Oh come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Christmas Dialog & Greeting:

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In Him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

P: May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

C: And also with you. Amen.

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us Pray,

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin
that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.