



CHRISTMAS EVE

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CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2022 – 8:00 PM

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.
The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Resurrection Brass Ensemble

Christmas Carols - arr. D. Marlatt

PRELUDE

Angels from the Realms of Glory – arr. L. Lamb

Heavenly Handbells

WELCOME

❖ PROCESSIONAL CAROL

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful – arr. V. Nelhybel, D. Willcocks

LSB 379

1. 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: *Refrain*

2. Highest, Most Holy,
Light of Light Eternal,
Born of a virgin,
A mortal He comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Refrain O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of
Heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: *Refrain*

4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus to Thee be
Glory given!
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

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❖ INVOCATION AND DIALOG

P We make our beginning in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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 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.**

❖ EPISTLE

Titus 2:11-14 [ESV]

¹¹For the Grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope,

the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴Who 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

❖ CONFESSION OF SINS

John 20:21-23

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead**

C us, so that we may delight in Your Will and walk in Your Ways to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.

❖ **GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS**

P Almighty God in His Mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His Sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ, and by His Authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Ding Dong Merrily on High – arr. C. Wood

Sanctuary Choir

*1. Ding dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing;
Ding dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.*

Refrain

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

*2. E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And i-o, i-o, i-o, by priest and people sungen.*

Refrain

*3. Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.*

Refrain

SALUTATION AND COLLECT

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Almighty God, you made this Holy Night shine with the brightness of the True Light.

C 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;

P through Your Only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

Isaiah 9:2-7 [ESV]

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep
darkness,
on them has light shone.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior
in battle tumult

and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷Of 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Shepherd's Pipe Carol – J. Rutter

Sanctuary Choir

*1. Going through the hills on a night all starry
On the way to Bethlehem,
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping
On the way to Bethlehem.*

Refrain
*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the New-Born King
Is come to bring us peace on earth, and He's lying
Cradled there at Bethlehem.'*

2. *'Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily
On the way to Bethlehem,
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem?'*

3. *'None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem;
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies
When I get to Bethlehem.'*

4. *'Where is this New King, shepherd boy piping merrily,
Is He there at Bethlehem?'
'I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly
In the sky o'er Bethlehem.'*

5. *'May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily,
Come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the New King's Cradle,
Is it far to Bethlehem?'*

Refrain
*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the New-Born King
Is come to bring us peace on earth, and He's lying
Cradled there at Bethlehem.'*

Refrain
*Angels in the sky came down from on high,
Hovered o'er the manger where the Babe was lying
Cradled in the arms of His mother Mary,
Sleeping now at Bethlehem.*

Refrain
*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the New-Born King
Is come to bring us peace on earth, and He's lying
Cradled there at Bethlehem.'*

Refrain
*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King
Is born this night in lonely stable yonder,
Born for you at Bethlehem.'*

❖ CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20 [ESV]

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

P **2** 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.

Men ⁴*And 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.*

Women ⁶*And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.*
⁷*And 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.*

P ⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the Glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.
¹⁰ And the angel said to them,

Women *“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”*

P ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

All ¹⁴ **“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!”**

P ¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven,
the shepherds said to one another,

Men *“Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”*

P ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph,
and the Baby lying in a manger.

Men ¹⁷ *And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.*

P ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

Women ¹⁹ *But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.*

All ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CAROL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing – arr. V. Nelhybel, D. Willcocks

LSB 380

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!

Refrain

3. Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.

Refrain

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HOMILY

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

At Just the Right Time

Luke 2:6-7

CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High – arr. V. Nelhybel

LSB 368

1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?

Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be

Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3. Come to Bethlehem and see

Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee

Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain

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CREED

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven

and sits at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the Life ☩ Everlasting. Amen.

❖ GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3*)
Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow, or handshake) is welcome.

OFFERING

(The offerings of God’s people will be received through electronic giving, by postal mail, and in baskets located at the doors.)

MUSICAL OFFERING

The First Noel – arr. L. Lamb

Heavenly Handbells

OFFERTORY CAROL

The First Noel – arr. V. Nelhybel

LBW 56, vs. 1 & 5

**1. The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in field as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.**

Refrain

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

**5. Then entered in those Wise Men three,
Full rev’rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain***

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❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Blessing and honor and glory and might be to You, Almighty God – worship
and praise and thanksgiving...for You have kept Your Word and come at
last in Jesus Christ to set Your people free. O God of Great Glory...

C **Grant us peace.**

P Let the good tidings of great joy sound forth to show Your Glory in every part of the world, that the darkness of sin may give way to the glorious light of Christ's Presence among us. O God of Great Glory.

C **Grant us peace.**

P Grant peace to the nations of this world, peace to our communities and neighborhoods, peace to our homes and families, peace to the hearts of lives of all of us. O God of Great Glory.

C **Grant us peace.**

P Grant joy to those who rejoice in these days, and the peace of Your Strength and Comfort to those who are afflicted, that in every circumstance we may see You in action and know the glory of Your Love. O God of Great Glory.

C **Grant us peace.**

P Set us aglow, O God, with the message of the angels – and the prospect of joining them, and all Your People of every time and every place – in the Glory You have prepared for us through Him Whose Birth we celebrate. O God of Great Glory.

C **Grant us peace.**

P Glory in the highest be to You, O God, with Your Only-Begotten Son in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore.

C **Amen.**

❖ THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

P Glory to God in the highest,
C **and peace to God's people on earth.**

P Blessed are You, Prince of Peace, You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C **Send Your Gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

P Blessed are You, Wonderful Counselor. You enlighten the heart with steadfast love.

C **Enliven Your church that it might bear good tidings of great joy to all people.**

P Blessed are You, Immanuel, You promised to be with us even to the end of the age.

C **Open our eyes to see Your Presence in all who are hungry, lonely, or homeless.**

P Blessed are You, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C **Reveal Yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear Your Light to all the world.**

*The minister lights a large candle from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world.
The ushers light their candles from the minister'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 candles will be extinguished following the Blessing.*

MUSIC FOR THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Still, Still, Still – arr. P. Ledger

Sanctuary Choir

*1. Still, still, still, Let all the world be still,
For Mary lays her Son to rest,
Sings to Him softly at her breasts,
Still, still, still, Let all the world be still.*

*2. Sleep, sleep, sleep, My Dearest Baby, sleep,
The angels all rejoice and sing,
Heaven, for Your delight shall ring,
Sleep, sleep, sleep, My Dearest Baby, sleep.*

*3. Joy, joy, joy, My heart is filled with joy!
The God of Love has left His Throne,
Made this humble world His own,
Joy, joy, joy, My heart is filled with joy!*



CAROL

Silent Night – arr. V. Nelhybel

LSB 363

**1. 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,**

2. 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!

3. 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.

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❖ 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.

❖ BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P 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.
 And may Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.



CLOSING CAROL

Joy to the World - arr. V. Nelhybel

LSB 387, vs. 1-2, 4

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her 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.

2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy...

4. He rules the world with truth and grace

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love...

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POSTLUDE

Joy to the World - arr. D. Marlatt

Resurrection Brass Ensemble

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Acknowledgments

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Servant Leaders in Worship Today

Preacher Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke
Presiding Minister..... Rev. Zach Sarrault
Assisting Minister Rev. Alan Shaw
Organist/Pianist/Director Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry
Resurrection Brass Ensemble.....Garry Grabow, James Linn, Mark Beamish,
Kathy Silbiger, Richard Lehner, Christopher Peffley, Travis Taylor
Lector.....Bill Xenakis
Camera Operator.....Jill Hammergren
Live Stream Producer.....Susan Moore



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