

Friday, December 24, 2021 – 4:00 P.M. Children & Family Service
Christmas Eve

Prelude & Welcome

Hymn: ELW 283: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Apostolic Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A: And also with you.

MARY

First Reading – Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

PRAYER: Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

JOSEPH

Second Reading – Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

PRAYER: O God, from the family of your servant David you raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the husband of his blessed mother. Give us grace to imitate his obedience to your commands. **Amen.**

Hymn: ELW 289: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels We Have Heard on High



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

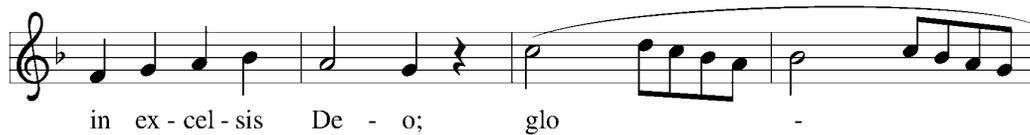


and the moun-tains in re-ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad-some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

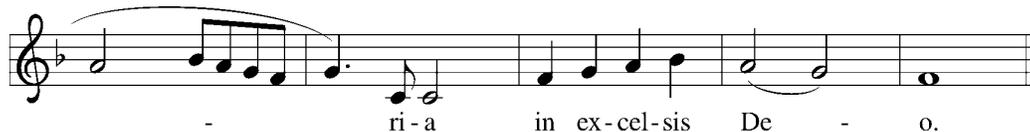


Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: GLORIA, French carol

MARY & JOSEPH TRAVEL TO BETHLEHEM

Third Reading: Luke 2:1-5

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

PRAYER: O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray; cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. **Amen.**

Hymn: ELW 279: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (verses 1 & 2)

O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



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.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



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,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



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!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893
Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

JESUS

Fourth Reading – Luke 2:6-7

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

PRAYER: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. 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.**

Children's Message: "Mouse's Christmas Gift"

Hymn: ELW 277: "Away in a Manger"

Away in a Manger



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



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.
Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905

Prayers of Intercession

P: Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

P: Love proclaims that a Savior has been born to us! Inspire your church throughout the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus' birth to all who seek salvation, hope, and new life. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

P: Love whispers to a weary world that the time for rest and restoration has come. Maintain healthy cycles of wake and sleep for all creatures. Where light pollution disrupts natural rhythms, encourage new practices. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

P: Love cries to a warring world that the time for peace is at hand. Direct those in power who make decisions on behalf of others, that they nurture and sustain all that is healthy, good, and holy. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

P: Love sings through the wails of a newborn baby. Respond to all who cry out in pain, despair, or need this night (especially). Bring comfort to those for whom separation, grief, or loss makes the Christmas season especially difficult. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

P: Love murmurs words of comfort to a newborn child and exhausted parents. Bless new and expectant parents or caregivers, especially those who are alone or afraid this night. Pour out your love upon families of every kind. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

P: God's ever-present love is proclaimed through the faithful who came before us. We give you thanks for Mary, John the baptizer, Elizabeth his mother, Joseph the dreamer, and all who point toward your love, especially:

World Hunger & Poinsettia Gifts

Given in Honor of:

Children and Grandchildren, by Stan and Debbie McQuaide

Parents and Grandparents, by Jamie and Katie McMullen

Chris, Tiffany, Zachary, Meghan, Lily, and Eli Swartz, by Paul and Gayle Swartz

Keith, Wendy, Nathaniel, and Olivia Mayket, by Paul and Gayle Swartz

Petkosh Families, by Rodger and Debbie Thomas

Thomas Families, by Rodger and Debbie Thomas

Given in Memory of:

David J. Brehm, Jr., by David J. Brehm III and Family

Tammy (Michaels) Conaghan, by loving mother Claudia Plows

Patricia Custer, by Custer Family

Jeneal (Horner) Crawley, by Cindy and Albert Buday

Oscar and Eva Eschrich, by William Eschrich

Paul, Betty, and David Gindlesperger, by Joyce Gindlesperger
Joseph Grosholz, Sr., by loving fiancée Claudia Plows
Ray and Dorothy Hite, by Joyce, Jason, Suzanne, and Sophia Hite
Luther and Kathleen Horner, by Cindy and Albert Buday
Otto and Mary Kendzora, by Joyce, Jason, Suzanne, and Sophia Hite
Beverly Ann Kocis, by loving husband Joe Kocis
Paul and Ann Kormanik, by Jeff and Phyllis Nider and Family
Joseph and Mildred Kocis, by Joe Kocis
Charles and Louise Ling, by Joe Kocis
Zak Lonsinger, by Stan and Debbie McQuaide
Zakary Lonsinger, by Mark, Shari, Kelsie, and Jared McQuaide
Loved Ones, by Susan and Rachel Brandau
Loved Ones, by Paul and Gayle Swartz
Dorothy McQuaide, by Lee McQuaide
Linda McQuaide, by Bill, Cara, Kyle, and Jordan Lonsinger
Linda McQuaide, by Mark, Shari, Kelsie, and Jared McQuaide
Linda McQuaide, by Stan and Debbie McQuaide
Tim and Beaver McQuaide, by Lee McQuaide
Zakary McQuaide Lonsinger, by Bill, Cara, Kyle, and Jordan Lonsinger
Dale Middleton, by Stan and Debbie McQuaide
Mike and Pauline Nider, by Jeff and Phyllis Nider and Family
Catherine Oleksa, by Kevin and Chris Oleksa
Benny and Phyllis Petrarca, by Joyce, Jason, Suzanne, and Sophia Hite
Jim and Dorothy Pozun, by the Solarczyk and George Families
Albert Sojak, by Kevin and Chris Oleksa
Bob and Clara Solarczyk, by the Solarczyk and George Families
Glenn and LaVerne Trent Way, by Joyce and Brittany Spangler

Dan Warman, by Susan and Rachel Brandau

Given to the Glory of God:

Becky Lilja

P: Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

P: Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

A: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

P: Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

A: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving: ELW: 271: "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve *Jeg er så glad hver julekvel*



Jeg er så glad hver ju - le - kveld, ti da blev Je - sus født;
1 I am so glad each Christ-mas Eve, the night of Je - sus' birth!
2 The lit - tle child in Beth - le - hem, he was a king in - deed!
3 He dwells a - gain in heav - en's realm, the Son of God to - day;
4 I am so glad each Christ-mas Eve! His prais - es then I sing;
5 And so I love each Christ-mas Eve, and I love Je - sus too;



da lys - te stjer - nen som en sol, og eng - ler sang så sødt.
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and an - gels sang on earth.
For he came down from heav'n a - bove to help a world in need.
and still he loves his lit - tle ones and hears them when they pray.
he o - pens now for ev - 'ry child the pal - ace of the king.
and that he loves me ev - 'ry day I know so well is true.

Text: Marie Wexelsen, 1832–1911; tr. Peter A. Sveeggen, 1881–1959
Music: JEG ER SÅ GLAD, Peder Knudsen, 1819–1863
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Thanksgiving at the Table

P: 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.

P: 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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

A: 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: Come now with joy to Emmanuel's table. Feast at the banquet of hope and love.

Communion Distribution

Communion Music:

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (ELW 270) sung by Congregation

"O Holy Night" as interpreted by Dan Gresh/musicians

Prayer After Communion

P: We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

A: Amen.

ANGELS & SHEPHERDS

Fifth Reading - Luke 2:8-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Candle Lighting: Hymn: ELW 281: "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Silent Night, Holy Night!
Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

Blessing

P: The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

A: Amen.

Hymn: ELW: 290: "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

A: Thanks be to God!