

Saturday, December 24, 2022 (7:00 & 10:00 services)

Nativity of our Lord, Year A

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.

ELW 277: "Away in a Manger" 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.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: We gather in the name of our baptism, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness. God, wonderful counselor,

All: we confess that we have turned from your gifts and chosen our own way. We have not made room for you in our hearts or in our world. We have lived in fear; we have not welcomed the stranger; we desire gifts that will not endure. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, and open us to receive the peace of Jesus dwelling in and among us. Amen.

P: God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior. We are saved, not by anything we have done, but by God's mercy poured out on us richly. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Through the Spirit living in you, God give you faith to trust Jesus, who is Love born for you, now and always.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW 267: "Joy to the World"

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.**

Hymn of Praise: “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” with violin accompaniment

Jesu joy of man’s desiring
Holy wisdom love most bright

Drawn by Thee our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light

Word of God our flesh that fashioned
With the fire of life impassioned

Striving still to truth unknown
Soaring, dying round Thy throne

First Reading: 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. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For 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. His 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.

P: The word of the Lord,

A: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 96 (7:00 service)

P: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

A: Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.

P: Declare God’s glory among the nations and God’s wonders among all peoples.

A: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

P: As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

A: Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

P: Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

A: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.

P: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

A: Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.”

P: Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

A: Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.

P: You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Choir Anthem: “A Christmas Canon” (10:00 service)

By Johann Pachelbel with words taken from a translation of Martin Luther’s “Von Hummel Hoch” (From Heaven Above)

From heaven above to earth I come,
To bring good news to everyone,
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
To all the world and gladly sing.

This newborn child of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth,
Welcome to earth O noble guest,

Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who into us His Son is given,
With angels now we sing in mirth,
A glad New Year to all the Earth!

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He 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.

P: The word of the Lord,

A: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: ELW 250: “Blessed Be the God of Israel” verse 1

Blessed be the God of Israel
who comes to set us free
and raises up new hope for us:
a Branch from David’s tree.
So have the prophets long declared
that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies
and all who wish us harm.

P: The Gospel according to Luke.

A: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

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. 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.

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.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW 270: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



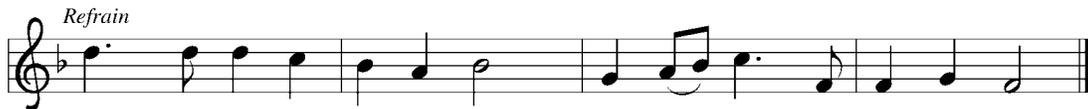
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

Nicene Creed

A: 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.

Prayers of Intercession

P: With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

P: Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels, the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

P: You are pleased to dwell with your creatures and the whole earth sings for joy. Renew the splendor of creation from the smallest cell to the widest galaxies. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

P: Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

P: You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children and bless those who care for them. Watch over women giving birth, attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain (especially). Shelter refugee families and those who have no home. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

P: Your lovingkindness embraces everyone in need. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving (especially). God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

P: You welcome those who have died into the joyous light of glory. We give thanks for the saints of every time and place who have praised you with lives of faith and humility. Inspire us by their example to love you by serving others. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

P: Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

A: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

Announcements

Offertory Song: ELW 288: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



- 1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

Offertory Prayer

P: God with us:

A: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

A: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: 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:

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

(ELW 249, verses 3-5)

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P: We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin’s womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

P: He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: In the same way 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.

P: Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people. Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

A: Amen.

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.

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

(ELW 254, Verse 1)

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Communion Distribution

Communion Music:

“Messiah” Francesca Battistelli

“Mary, Did You Know” by Voctave with Mark Lowry

ELW 280: “Midnight Stars Make Bright the Skies” as interpreted by Dan Gresh

Prayer After Communion

P: Radiant God,

A: with our eyes, we have seen your salvation, and in this meal, we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

P: Grace from God’s own heart, peace from the ✝ Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song: ELW 281: "Silent Night, Holy Night" with Candle Lighting

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

Dismissal:

P: Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.

A: Thanks be to God.

Poinsettias

Given in Honor of:

Loved Ones, given by Stan & Debbie McQuaid
Children & Grandchildren, given by Gayle Swartz
Logan, Jillian, Carson, Jocelyn & Cole, given by Mimi (Missy)
Jerry & Ruth Pozun, given by Children & Grandchildren
Hunter & Casey Bergman, given by Mom & Dad
Bethe H. Shaffer, given by Kim Stayrook
Children & Grandchildren, given by Bob & Cindy Solarczyk
Family & Loved Ones, given by The Layton Family
Children & Grandchildren, given by Paul & Krista Miller

Given in Memory of:

Loved Ones, given by The Solarczyk & George Families
Zakary Lonsinger, given by Mark, Shari, Kelsie & Jared
Loved Ones: Linda McQuaide & Zakary McQuaide Lonsinger, given by Bill, Cara, Kyle & Jordan Lonsinger
Barbara L. Barker, Florence Barker & Clair Barker, given by Jim, Caryn, Harrison, Health & baby Ondesko
Luther & Kathleen Horner & Jenneal F. Crowley, given by Cindy & Al Buday
Catherine Oleksa & Albert Sojak, given by Keven & Chris Oleska
Clair & Florence Barker and Barb L. Barker, given by Rian Barker
Mike & Pauline Nider and Paul & Ann Kormanik, given by the Nider Family
Thomas/Petkosh Family, given by Rodger & Debbie Thomas
Ami & D.J. Shaffer & Donald Shaffer, Jr., given by Kim Stayrook
Andy Peretin, given by Nancy Peretin & Family
Loved Ones, given by Marge Balogh
Our Loved Ones, given by Jerry & Marybeth Heinze
Mary Pauline Read and A. M. Read, given by Nancie Read
Linda McQuaide, Dale Middleton & Zak Lonsinger, given by Stan & Debbie McQuaide
Elaine & Dean Sterner, given by the Sterner Family
Kelly Michaud, given by Randy Sterner
Doreen Griffith, given by Sterner Family
Denise Hayes, Jane & Harold Penrod, given by Susan & Jeff Penrod
Raymond & Dorothy Hite, Sr., given by Joyce, Jason, Suzanne & Sophia Hite
Ray Hite, Jr., given by Joyce, Jason Suzanne & Sophia Hite
Benny & Phyllis Petrarca, given by Joyce, Jason, Suzanne & Sophia Hite

Dan Warman, given by Susan & Rachael Brandau
Norma Culp, given by Michael, Ashley, Gabriel & Elias Kozak
Loved Ones, given by Hadley, Harper & Hudson Pozun
Linda McQuaide, given by Mark, Shari, Kelsie & Jared
George & Pearl Pearson, given by Krista & Paul Miller
Leroy & Avonel Miller, given by Paul & Krista Miller
Paul Swartz, given by Gayle, Chris, Tiffany, Wendy, Keith & Grandchildren
James & Dorothy Pozun, given by Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren
Mary & Otto Kendzora, given by Joyce, Jason, Suzanne & Sophie Hite
Glenn A. & Laverne Trent, given by Daughter, Joyce Spangler & Granddaughter, Brittany Spangler

World Hunger Gifts

Given in Honor of:

Children & Grandchildren and In Memory of Loved Ones, given by Dick & Lois Sholtis
Shannon, Justin & Kate, given by Gloria Reed
Parents & Grandparents, given by Jamie & Katie McMullen
Grandchildren, Hadley, Harper, Hudson and Penelope, given by Ruth & Jerry Pozun

Given in Memory of:

George, Jean, Debbie, Linda Jean & Brian Tressler, given by Wayne Tressler
Parents: Charles & Louise Ling and Sister: Beverly Kocis & Sister-in-Law Maxine Ling, given by Kathy Ling & Karen Giunta
Loved Ones given by Susan & Rachael Brandau
Kathryn Zeger, Rev. Henry Reed & Violet Reed, given by Gloria, Shannon & Justin
Rev. Ron Reed, given by Gloria, Shannon, Justin & Kate
Departed Loved Ones, given by the Layton Family
Howard Hiltz, given by Wilma Hiltz & Family
Parents & Loved Ones, given by Rick & Lois
Parents, Kenneth & Stella Stull, given by Sharon E. Stull
Parents, given by Ruth & Jerry Pozun
