



PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW #283



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!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

3PM VICKI HANNEMAN

5PM KRISTY WICKLUND

READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7

² 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. ³You 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. ⁴For 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. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For 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. ⁷His 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98:1-4 *read responsively*

¹O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

²**The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises**

READING: JOHN 1: 1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM:

3pm service: *“Angels We Have Heard on High”* arr. John Behnke **Hosanna Handbells**

5pm service: *“Midnight Clear”* Russell Schulz-Widmar **Senior Choir**

GOSPEL: Luke 2: 1-14, 15-20

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am

bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

"The Truth of Christmas"

PASTOR GRETCHEN ENOCH

HYMN OF THE DAY

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW #276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:

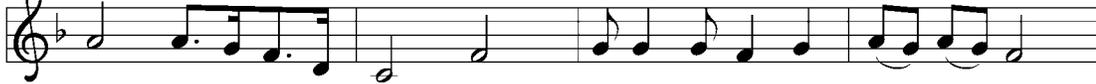


Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Love has come: God's love for all people, come and eat, for Christ invites you.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

ELW #270

Away In a Manger

ELW #277

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve

ELW #271

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW #279

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. Amen.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

Please tip your unlit candle to the flame of your neighbor's candle. As the candles are being lit, we sing together:

HYMN

Silent Night Holy Night!

ELW #281



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

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.**

DISMISSAL

Christ is Born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere!

Jesus Christ is Born! Sing and shout with joy!!!

POSTLUDE

Extinguish candles and return them to basket in Narthex area at the end of the service.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve

- 3:00pm Worship Service
- 5:00pm Worship Service

Saturday, December 25:

- Christmas Day- Merry Christmas!

This Sunday, December 26, 2021 -First Sunday after Christmas

- 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion, Send-Off Service for Vicar Lynn, followed by coffee, cookies & fellowship, *Narthex*.
- NO Sunday School & Butterflies

Monday, December 27:

- Office Closed
- NO Love Days Quilters
- 5pm Al-Anon

Tuesday, December 28:

- Office Closed
- 12:00pm Yoga, *Narthex*
- 5:30pm Yoga, *Narthex*

Wednesday, December 29:

- Office Closed
- 9:30am Al Anon
- 10:00am AA
- 1:00pm Cookie Monster AA
- 5:00pm OA
- NO FLY K-6
- NO FLY 7-12
- NO Handbells Practice
- NO Choir Practice

Thursday, December 30:

- Office Closed
- 6:00pm Women's AA, zoom id #147353510; passcode 999

Friday, December 31:

- Office Closed

Welcome to 1st Lutheran!

* We are delighted that you have joined us for worship.

* The invitation to Holy Communion comes from our Lord Jesus. You do not need to be a member, or Lutheran, to receive Holy Communion. All who trust Christ's promises are welcome.

* Children are sometimes wiggly and noisy. We don't mind. They are always welcome here. If your small children are needing to move around or need comforting, there is space in the back of the Sanctuary with quiet toys and a rocking chair.

* If you have prayer concerns, please be sure to let the church office know. Church phone number is 739-3348.

We have openings to sponsor the radio broadcast in 2022; Cost: \$100. **Providing altar flowers** is available in 2022. Please sign up on the kiosk in the Narthex or call the office at 739-3348. Thank you!

Sunday School/Butterflies will resume Sunday, January 9th.

The Church Office will be closed December 27-31st. Happy New Year!

Offering Envelopes have been ordered but have not yet arrived. Remember, this year we have ordered generic envelopes, so please remember to write your name on them when you turn in your offerings. Thank you! Please contact the office with any questions. 218-739-3348.

24 Days of Giving – Join the First Lutheran Sunday School students in giving to the Community Food Shelf with the gift of money as we count down the days to Christmas. Envelopes can be found in front of the church office. Please turn in your envelopes by Jan. 16th.

Thank you to those who helped prepare and deliver Christmas Baskets to various members of our community! We delivered 23 baskets total this year.