



Tuesday, December 24, 2024 # # Christmas Eve # # Candlelight Service – 7:00 pm

Welcome in Jesus' Name

May God richly bless you as you worship Him. If you are a guest with us, we want you to feel welcome; you honor us with your presence, and we are glad to have you here. Please fill out the Attendance Registration located in your bulletin. Prayer requests can also be made on the same insert. If you have a specific prayer request that you would like the Pastor to pray for during the Prayers of the Church, please fill out the bulletin insert and give it to an usher, who will then deliver it to the Pastor.

Holy Communion

We celebrate the Lord's Supper as part of our worship service, on the 1st& 3rd Sunday of the month during the 8:30am service and the 2nd& 4th Sunday during the 10:30am service. We invite those who share our confession of faith, namely, that Jesus is truly present in, with & under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to commune with us. Those who share a different confession or have not yet been instructed in the Lord's Supper are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing. We offer individual cups. The light-colored cups in the center are grape juice instead of wine. Pastor will be available prior to the worship service to answer any questions about Holy Communion.

To Our Guests

We often have guests in worship from all over the world. Please introduce yourself to Pastor or a Greeter before or after the worship service.

Restrooms

Restrooms and changing tables are located out the back of the sanctuary and down the hallway.

Out of respect for your fellow worshippers & those who have diligently prepared for this worship service, we ask that you **silence your cell phones** & keep conversation to a minimum prior to the service.

Large Print Bulletin: If you desire a sight-saving bulletin, please ask an usher.

Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Kristi Clarke in honor of Thrivent volunteers.

Prelude

A Suite based on "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising" by Phil

Lehenbauer (written for tonight's service)

- 1. Manger Prayer
- 2. Eastern Sages
- 3. The Shepherds Rejoice
- 4. A Silent Night
- 5. The Angels Sing
- "Angels We Have Heard on High" by Phil Lehenbauer

Welcome

Please stand



- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- On this most holy night, we gather in silent awe, preparing to worship the Christ child. As we consider the birth of our Savior, we recognize our great need for Him. We confess before God and to one another that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We examine our lives according to the perfect Law of God and recognize our many sins against God and one another. In humble adoration, we bow before Jesus, the sinless Lamb of God, who was sent to be our substitute, our sacrifice, and the atonement for the sins of the whole world.

(a time of silence for personal reflection and confession of sins)

- P Dearest Jesus,
- for us sinners, You became a child. Since we could not fulfill the Father's just and holy will, You fulfilled it for us. We bow before You humbly confessing our sinfulness that separates us from You. We repent of our sins in thought, word, and action that oppose and neglect Your righteous ways. Forgive us our sins that we may be reconciled to You, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
- On this night, I announce to you good news of great joy, for unto you is born this night in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. He brought with Him forgiveness and salvation for all who believe and trust in Him. For His sake God forgives you of your sins. Therefore, like the shepherds, go forth in true joy and excitement for your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen

Salutation and Collect of the Day

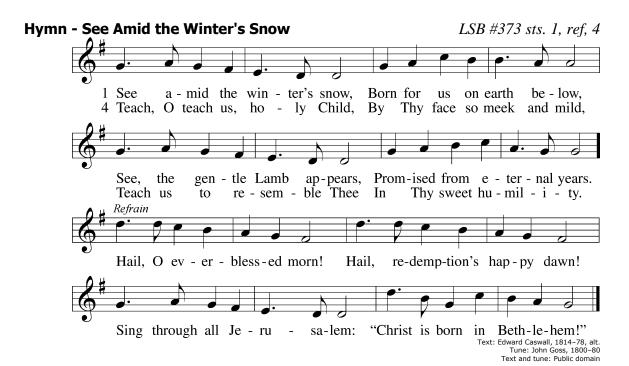
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

Detus pray.
O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who

lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

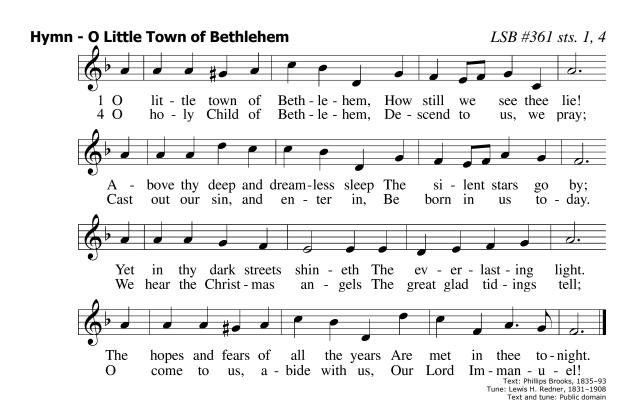
C Amen.

Please be seated



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

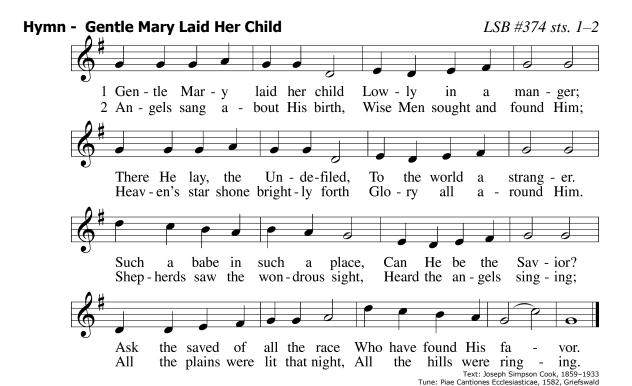
- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



Epistle Titus 2:11–14

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.



Please stand

The Christmas Gospel

Luke 2:1–14

Text and tune: Public domain

¹In 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. ⁴And 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. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And 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.

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

¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"



¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Responsory

- P Sing to the Lord and bless His name, proclaim His salvation from day to day.
- **G** Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name.
- P Now is Christ among us, the Word made flesh to dwell with us.
- Give to the Lord all glory and honor, for our Immanuel is here. Praise be to God!
- P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- **C** as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen

Apostles' Creed

- P God has called us through Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- 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.

Please be seated



Sermon Who is the Child?

OFFERING - This evening we receive God's greatest gift as we join the shepherds in hearing the Angel's proclamation. In response to this gift, we as members of Shepherd of the Coast recognize God's continued work through our congregation. In response to this continued mission we provide our offerings to further the teaching of God's Word in this place. This is not an expectation of our visitors, we simply ask that you enjoy the service. Yet, if God's Spirit moves you to be a cheerful giver, and you desire to give an offering, then please place it in the plate on the back table as you depart this evening. There will be no formal collection during the service.

Please Stand



Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- On this most holy night, in awe at the wonder and majesty of the incarnation and in thanksgiving that the Savior of the nations has come, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- That the proclamation of Christ's birth would sound forth throughout the world, that God would give faithful pastors to His Church to proclaim these good tidings, and that He would give His people willing ears to hear and believe, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For peace in all homes, that our heavenly Father, would richly preserve all families with His Word and grace to live in love for one another, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For good government, that God would move all authorities to govern in service to His will; let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For generosity, that the Father who loves us and sent His Son as the propitiation for our sins would perfect His love in us to show kindness to those in need, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For deliverance from affliction, that God, who sent Jesus to save us from sin's curse, would hear the pleas of all who call to Him for mercy especially those who are sick, hospitalized, suffering, or in any need; that He would rescue them from trouble and preserve them in the hope of the resurrection in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For emergency workers, first responders, police officers, our military, and all whose vocations keep them from their families for our well-being this evening, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- Almighty God, You have given Your Son, born of Mary, to be the Savior of the world. Send Your Spirit and abide with us, that we may confess Him and remain in Your love until He comes again in glory; for He lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Luther's Evening Prayer

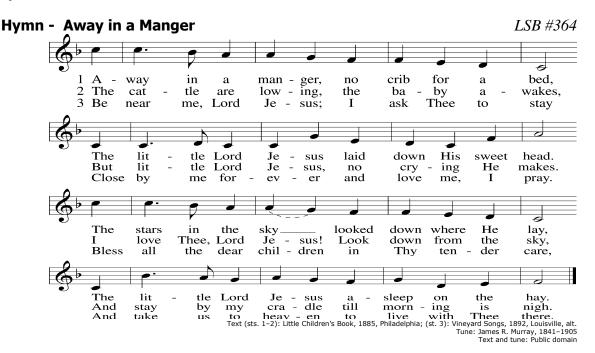
- **P** Let us pray together:
- I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Candle Lighting

The Pastor lights a single candle from the altar and lights the candles of the ushers. They in turn light the candle of the first person in each pew at the center aisle. The flame is passed along to each person in the pew. Please keep the lighted candle upright to avoid dripping wax on the floor and yourself. Parents should determine if it is appropriate for their child to hold a lighted candle.

Music as the Candles are lit - "O, Holy Night" by Phil Lehenbauer

After all candles are lit, we continue with our service:



- P Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
- Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.
- For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
- Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength! Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!
- Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;
- he will judge the peoples with equity." Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!
- Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.
- **C** He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Prayer

- P Let us pray.
 - Gracious God and Father, thank You for this gift of Your Son and for the message of the angels that announced His arrival. Dear Jesus, thank You for caring so much for us that You came to be one of us. Holy Spirit, thank You for carrying the song of the angels to our ears, that we might be lifted up in hope and joy. For all the blessings of this night and the life You bestow upon us, O Lord, we praise and glorify You without end.
- C Amen.

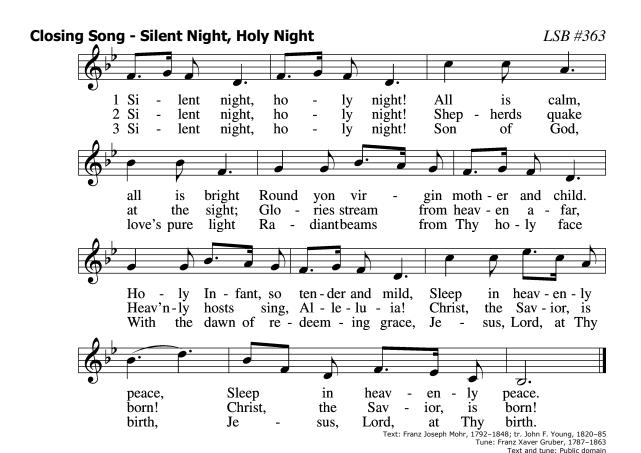
Lord's Prayer 162

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

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 LSB 166

C Amen.



Postlude: "Festive Voluntary on 'Adeste Fideles'" by Phil Lehenbauer

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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<u>December Service Schedule</u>

12/25 – Christmas Day – 10:00 am 12/29 – Combined Service – 10:30 am

LCMSFoundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Your estate plan can enable you to express your Christian faith. Many speak of estate planning from the perspective of "What legacy are you leaving behind?" If we are honest and think about those who have passed before us, their value is not in being remembered after they are gone, but in the impact they made on each of us during their life. If you would like to discuss this with your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor and how that translates into your estate plan, contact Tony Hunt 260-222-1291 or tony.hunt@lfnd.org ... May you have a very blessed Christmas!



Opportunities at Shepherd of the Coast

\$\Psi\$8:30 am − A traditional worship service in the classic Lutheran liturgical style.

₱9:30 am – Sunday School / 9:30 am – Adult Bible Study

†10:30 am − Praise Service − A contemporary worship service that is geared to families with young children.

Wednesdays during Advent – 9:00 am service with school children 7:00 pm evening service

Church Staff

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