



✝ 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

Opening Hymn - O Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB #379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 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



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P 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,

C **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.**

P 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.**

P Let us 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

Hymn - See Amid the Winter's Snow

LSB #373 sts. 1, ref, 4



1 See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
4 Teach, O teach us, ho - ly Child, By Thy face so meek and mild,



See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
Teach us to re - sem - ble Thee In Thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.



Hail, O ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!



Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"

Text: Edward Caswall, 1814-78, alt.
Tune: John Goss, 1800-80
Text and tune: Public domain

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2–7

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.

³ You 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.

⁴ For 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.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For 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.

⁷ Of 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.**

Hymn - O Little Town of Bethlehem

LSB #361 sts. 1, 4



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
4 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;
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.
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.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-93
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908
Text and tune: Public domain

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.

Hymn - Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB #374 sts. 1-2



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859-1933
Tune: Piae Cantiones Ecclesiasticae, 1582, Griefswald
Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

The Christmas Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

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!”

Hymn - Angels We have Heard on High

LSB #368



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.

Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



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

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.
Text and tune: French
Text and tune: Public domain

The Christmas Gospel

Luke 2:15–20

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.

C 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.

C 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.

C **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

Hymn - What Child is This

LSB #370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98
Tune: English, 16th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

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

Hymn - From Heaven Above

LSB #358 sts. 1-3



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valtin Schumann
 Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** 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.**

P 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.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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:

C 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 Lehnbauer

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

Hymn - Away in a Manger

LSB #364

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

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Text (sts. 1-2): Little Children's Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt.
Tune: James R. Murray, 1841-1905
Text and tune: Public domain

Responsive Reading

Psalm 96

- 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.
- C** **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.**
- P** 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.
- C** **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!**
- P** 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;
- C** **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!**
- P** 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:

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

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Song - Silent Night, Holy Night

LSB #363



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,



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 Thy ho - ly face



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 Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820-85
Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787-1863
Text and tune: Public domain

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

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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December Service Schedule

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

LCMS Foundation

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

✠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

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