

# CHRISTMAS EVE

**December 24, 2023 – 4 PM**



*Ring of Bell*

PRELUDE *Aldorfer Brass*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING & LITANY

*All wreath candles are lit*

L: As we celebrate the birth of Jesus and rejoice in His coming to us, we light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and the Christ Candle.

**C: Jesus Christ is our Hope.**

**Jesus Christ is our Peace.**

**Jesus Christ is our Joy.**

**Jesus Christ is Love – pure, holy, undying love.**

L: For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son; that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life.

**C: Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!**

## O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

ELW 283

**<sup>1</sup> O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come  
and behold him, born the King of angels:**

*Refrain*

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**<sup>2</sup> The highest most holy, light of light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!**

*Refrain . . .*

**<sup>3</sup> Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God\_in\_the\_highest: Refrain . . .**

**<sup>4</sup> Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy  
morning; Jesus, to thee\_be\_glo – ry\_giv'n!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
Refrain . . .**

## GREETING

P: The glory of God has been revealed and  
all flesh shall see it together.

Today, Christ is born.

**C: Glory to God in the highest!**

## ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH ELW 289

**<sup>1</sup> Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly  
singing o'er the plains, and the mountains  
in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Gloria  
in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**<sup>2</sup> Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your  
joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome  
tidings be? Which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**<sup>3</sup> Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose  
birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended  
knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

**C: God of light, God of stars and angels, God of  
weary travelers and stables, God of hard labor  
and new birth, we come today to worship you.  
Open our eyes to your glory, open our ears to  
your wisdom, open our hearts to your love, as  
we come to worship Jesus, the newborn king.  
AMEN.**

## FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the ramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: LUKE 2:1-14

**C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Congregation reads bold print.*

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. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

AWAY IN A MANGER

ELW 277

**<sup>1</sup> Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**<sup>2</sup> The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**<sup>3</sup> 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 thee there.**

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. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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." **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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!" **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S WORD

MESSAGE *Pastor Kris Ferkin*

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

ELW 270

**<sup>1</sup> Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king; Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

*Refrain*

**Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

**<sup>2</sup> Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain***

**<sup>3</sup> Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

## SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

## GLOBE OFFERING— OFFERING—OFFERTORY

*Children are invited to bring an offering to the globe in the front of the church. Globe offerings will go to one of our global mission partners to be decided by our youth.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

L. God with us: You came as a baby in a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine.

**C. 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.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER —

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION – LORD’S PRAYER

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION Glory to God in the Highest! Come to the table of peace.*

## DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS

### I AM SO GLAD EACH CHRISTMAS EVE ELW 271

**<sup>1</sup> I am so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus’ birth! Then like the sun the star shone forth, and angels sang on earth.**

**<sup>2</sup> The little child in Bethlehem, he was a king indeed! For he came down from heav’n above to help a world in need.**

**<sup>3</sup> He dwells again in heaven’s realm, the Son of God today; and still he loves his little ones and hears them when they pray.**

**<sup>4</sup> I am so glad each Christmas Eve! His praises then I sing; he opens now for ev’ry child the palace of the king.**

**<sup>5</sup> And so I love each Christmas Eve, and I love Jesus too; and that he loves me ev’ry day, I know so well is true.**

### WHAT CHILD IS THIS

ELW 296

**<sup>1</sup> What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**<sup>2</sup> Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**<sup>3</sup> So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe the son of Mary!**

## COMMUNION BLESSING

*The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

## CANDLELIGHTING:

*No candles to infants/ toddlers/ young children*

### **Tip Unlit Candle to Light**

### **Hold Lit Candle Upright**



*We Sing - -*

### SILENT NIGHT

ELW 281

**<sup>1</sup> Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**<sup>2</sup> Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heav’ly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!**

**<sup>3</sup> Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light, radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus Lord, at your birth. Jesus Lord, at your birth.**

★ *Brief Silence* ★ *Carefully Extinguish Candle*  
★ *Keep Candle Upright until wax is hard*

## BENEDICTION

God bless and keep you,  
+ Jesus grant you grace and truth  
and the Spirit send peace upon your heart.  
**AMEN.**

**<sup>1</sup> Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

**Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart  
prepare him room**

**and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**<sup>4</sup> He rules the world with truth and grace and  
makes the nations prove the glories of his  
righteousness**

**and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

*Ringin' of Bell*

**DISMISSAL**

**L:** Christ the Savior in born! Go in peace.  
Proclaim this good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Aldorfer Brass*

**- PARTICIPANTS -**

**INTERIM PASTOR**—Kris Ferkin  
**WORSHIP ASSISTANT**—Carmen Nesseth  
**ORGANIST**—Tammy Hanson  
**BRASS**—Mike, Ross & Seth Aldorfer  
**COMMUNION SET-UP**—Larry & Kaia Lehman  
**GREETERS**—Nesseth Family  
**COMMUNION SERVERS**—Nesseth Family  
**TECH CREW**—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth,  
Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer.

**- CHRISTMAS PLANTS -**

Wayne & Marie Spidahl  
Dennis & Cora Lee Monroe  
Don & Candy Herrlich  
Harris & Heidi Haugen  
Barbara Groth  
Scott & Lisa Androli  
Brent & Bryana Lothert  
Donna Berge & Family  
Trista Musgjerd & Family  
Russell & Jeannie Foss Family  
Greg Canton Family

**- ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS -**

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PUBLIC DOMAIN: *O Come All Ye Faithful, Angels We Have  
Heard on High, Away in a Manger, Hark the Herald Angels,  
What Child Is This, Silent Night, Joy to the World*

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**- REMEMBER IN PRAYER -**

Lila Cole, Jennifer Lurfald, Carolyn Walker, Lavon Underdahl,  
Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Liz Flaten, Boe Aronson.

**- CALENDAR -**

SUN 12/ 24	----- 4 PM	NO MORNING WORSHIP Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
WK AFTER	-----	<i>No Wed Worship, No Confirmation, No Scheduled Activities</i>
SUN 12/31	9 AM	WORSHIP - LESSONS & CAROLS
WK AFTER	-----	<i>No Wed Worship, No Confirmation, No Scheduled Activities</i>
SUN 1/7	9 AM	WORSHIP – BAPTISM OF JESUS

**\*\*JAN 6 -- Due Date for all Annual Reports**

**SUN JAN 28 – Annual Meeting**



**Join us for Lessons & Carols Worship  
On Sunday December 31st at 9 AM.**