

# Christmas Eve Worship



FRIDAY,  
DECEMBER 24, 2021

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## INTRODUCTION

*In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.*

## CHRISTMAS PRELUDE

### ENTRANCE 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!

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

P The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, Rejoice, on them has the light shined. Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

*Isaiah 9:2*

## WORDS AT THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

P Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

**C By day and night he shines for all to see.**

P Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**C that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

P God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

**C so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

P Jesus is the light of the world.

**C Jesus is the light of our lives.**

P Sing to God a new song!

**C A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

## GREETING

P The grace and peace of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of Mary, be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

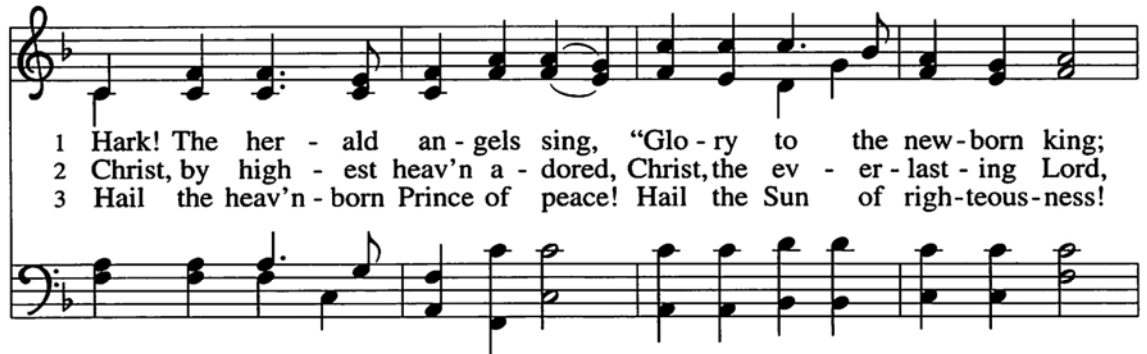


# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

ELW 270

VERSES 1 & 3



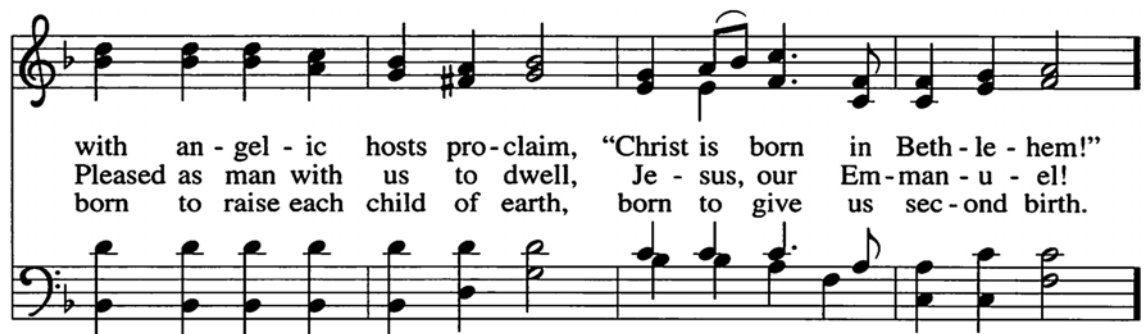
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



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.

*Refrain*



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God,

**C Almighty God, you made this holy day 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.**

## FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7

*Originally, this poem was written to celebrate either the birth or the coronation of a new Davidic king. After the fall of Jerusalem, this poem came to be viewed as an expression of the hope that eventually God would raise up a new ruler who would possess the qualities described in the text.*

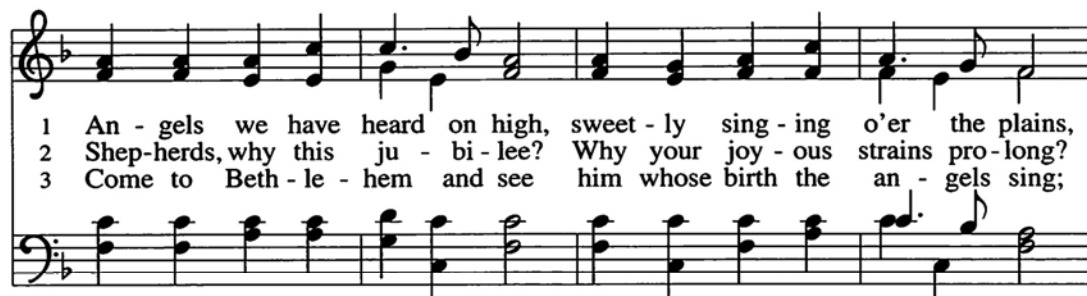
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined.  
<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.  
<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 tramping 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

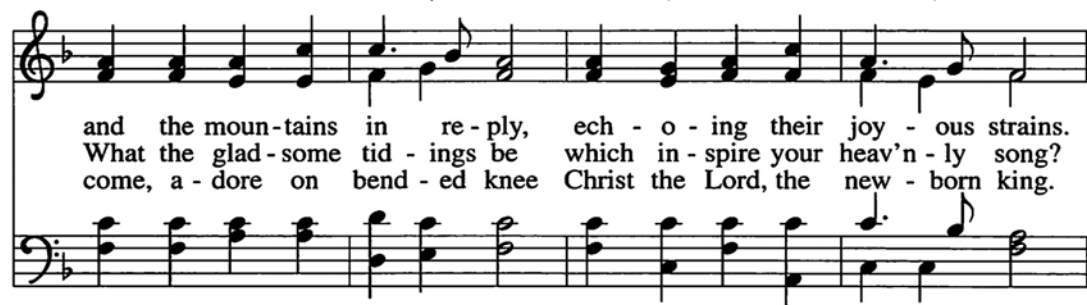
**C Thanks be to God.**



GOSPEL  
ACCLAMATION  
*Angels We Have  
Heard on High*  
ELW 289  
VERSES 1 & 3



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;

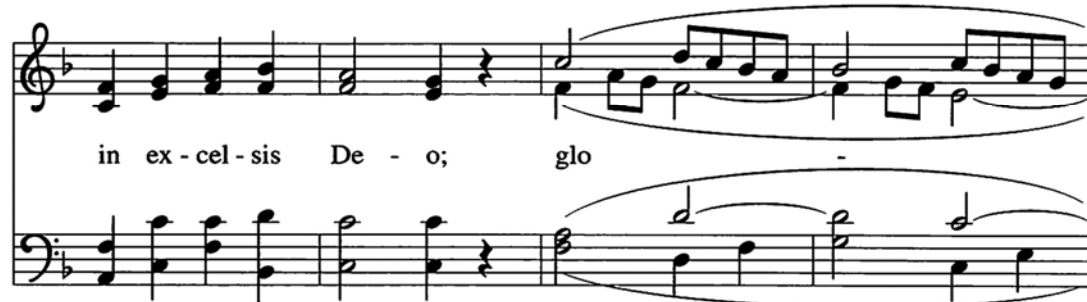


and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



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

P The Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the second chapter.

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

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-14

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. <sup>2</sup>This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, <sup>5</sup>to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, <sup>7</sup>and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. <sup>9</sup>The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. <sup>10</sup>The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

SERMON

PASTOR ANDREW PATTY



**HYMN OF THE DAY**  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
**ELW HYMN 279**



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 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;  
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
 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.  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
 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.  
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!



## NICENE CREED

- C** 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 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.

## THE PRAYERS

- A** Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- A brief silence.*
- A** Love proclaims that a Savior has been born to us! Inspire your church throughout the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus' birth to all who seek salvation, hope, and new life. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A** Love whispers to a weary world that the time for rest and restoration has come. Maintain healthy cycles of wake and sleep for all creatures. Where light pollution disrupts natural rhythms, encourage new practices. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A** Love cries to a warring world that the time for peace is at hand. Direct those who make decisions on behalf of others, that they nurture and sustain all that is healthy, good, and holy. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.**
- A** Love sings through the wails of a newborn baby. Respond to all who cry out in pain, despair, or need this night, especially Keith Springer, Peggy Buchholz, Helen Laughlin, Linda Longren, Don O'Brien, Linda Stone, Liz Utech, Susan Fitz, and Martha Nemeth. Bring comfort to those for whom separation, grief, or loss makes the Christmas season especially difficult. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.**
- P** God's ever-present love is proclaimed through the faithful who came before us. We give you thanks for Mary, John the baptizer, Elizabeth his mother, Joseph the dreamer, and all who point toward your love. Merciful God,
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P** Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.**

## THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

## OFFERING PRAYER

A Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

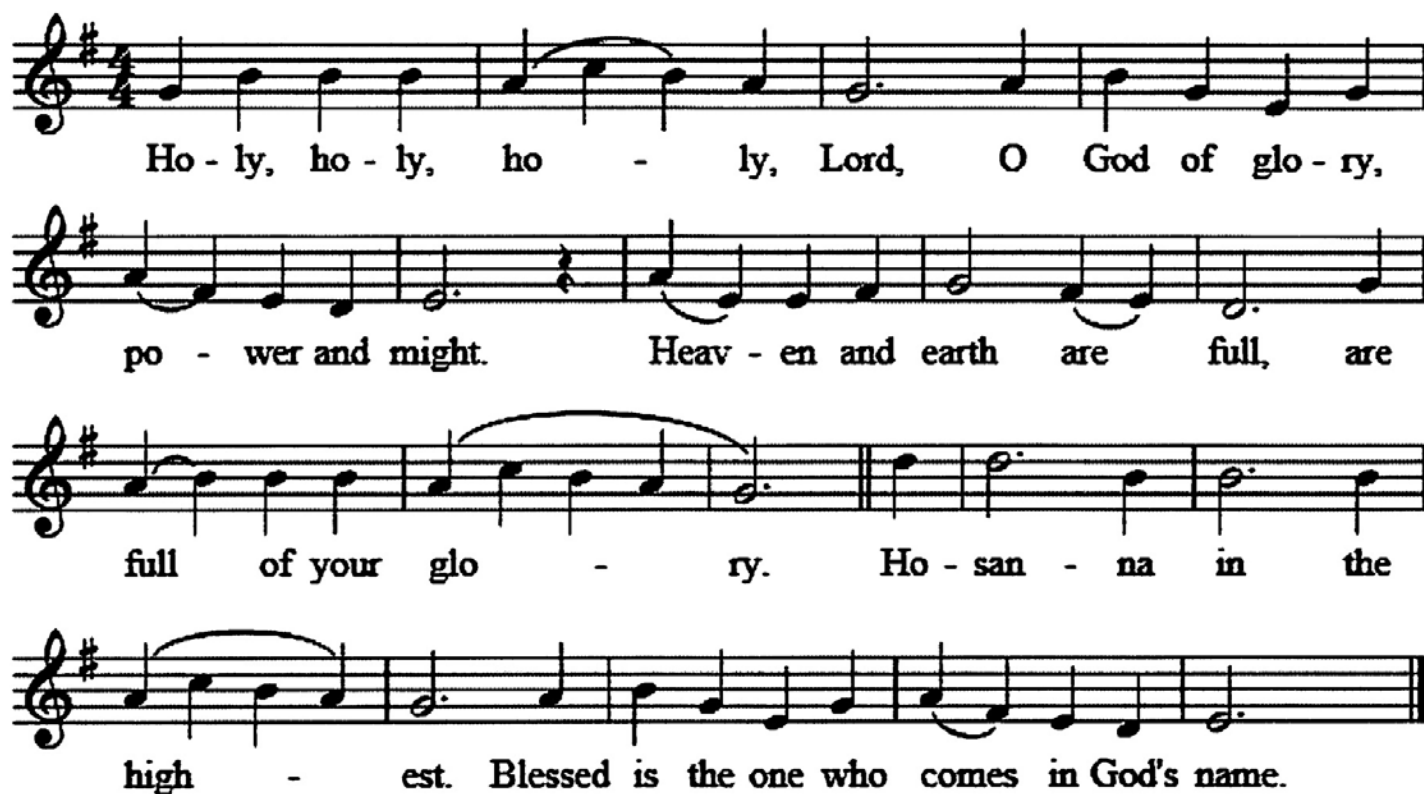
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, O God of glo - ry, po - wer and might. Heav - en and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is the one who comes in God's name." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, with some phrases like "Ho - ly" and "glo - ry" spanning across bar lines.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, O God of glo - ry,  
po - wer and might. Heav - en and earth are full, are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Blessed is the one who comes in God's name.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, 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 With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

**C Come among us.**

P Bless this meal.

**C May your Word take flesh in us.**

P Awaken your people.

**C Fill us with your light.**

P Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

# COMMUNION HYMN

*Go Tell It on the  
Mountain*  
ELW HYMN 290

*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.



## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

## BLESSING

P The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

C **Amen.**

## THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

A The light shines in the darkness.

C **And the darkness has not overcome it.**

A The Word became flesh and lived among us.

C **And we beheld Christ's glory.**

A To us a child is born, to us a Son is given

C **In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

P Let us pray.

O God of life and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life by the light of your Son. As we follow his light, awaken us to the needs of others. Help us share your light here and now. Bring all the world at the last into the fullness of your light. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

C **Amen.**

## READING: JOHN 1:1-19

*The prologue to the gospel of John describes Jesus as the creative word of God made flesh, God's true presence among us, the one whose very existence reveals God as "full of grace and truth."*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be <sup>4</sup>through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; <sup>5</sup>the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>A man named John was sent from God. <sup>7</sup>He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him.

<sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, <sup>13</sup>who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup>John testified to him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'" <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, <sup>17</sup>because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. The only Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him.



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,

Hol - der 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.

## PARTING COLLECT

**P** Almighty God, who has brought this holy day to shine with the illumination of the true Light of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: Grant that we may know each and every day what it meant for our Lord to come and be with us, and may we all join in spreading his light throughout the world. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, may we be sent out in glory everlasting.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING

**A** Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

**Hosanna** will be played as part of the postlude. Here are the words if you'd like to sing along.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

Hosanna, Son of David, He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the Son of David, He that cometh in the name of the Lord...

Hosanna, Son of David, He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the Son of David, He that cometh in the name of the Lord...

Sing Hosanna in the highest, Sing hosanna, sing hosanna!

Blessed be the Son of David, He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Sing Hosanna in the highest, Sing hosanna, sing hosanna!

Blessed be the Son of David, He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



*The poinsettias decorating our sanctuary today are donated by:*

**Rick & Janice Greenlee** in loving memory of Charles & Myra Sodergren

**Rick & Janice Greenlee** in loving memory of Colleen Greenlee.

**Curt & Jane Lewis** in memory of our parents.

**Debbie & Duane Pomeroy** to wish our Trinity family a Merry Christmas.



#### WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister..... Pr Andrew Patty  
Musicians ..... Laurie Jackson  
..... Parker Jackson  
..... Loretta Hoerman  
..... Lana Balka  
..... Bob Horton  
..... Ted Quast  
..... Abbie Loyd Kern