

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church

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Pastor Sue Beadle

Anne Emerson, Choir Director
Deacon Bonnie Vize, Organist

December 24, 2024 - Christmas Eve

PRELUDE - HANDBELL CHOIR -Songs of the Season

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sssh.

Can you hear it? An expectant silence, a hushed anticipation, as if the very galaxy is holding its breath. There are some truths even the stars know, like darkness, like loneliness and how the night can be a living thing. And how once, long ago, the night waited in wonder along with the darkness and the loneliness, for the sound of a baby's cry, for the miraculous to come down to the earth to be with us.

To us a child is born; to us a son is given! Let us worship the newborn King!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW #283 - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (page 8)

PASTORAL GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CHRISTMAS LITANY

We count it in mere hours now. Soon the first pains of labor will be felt.

Soon the Light will shine in the darkness, soon the baby will be born.

Soon God will once again break into our lives, coming in a way that is expected yet unusual,

challenging our expectations and calling us to see life differently.

God of birth, God of light, in this time of song and prayer and silence,
reawaken in us the awe of Christmas.

As we hear again the story of a young woman and a surprising visitor,
remind us that we are called to respond to you in unexpected ways.

And when we leave this place,
may we sing praises for a young woman who said YES and the birth of our Savior that we prepare to celebrate. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together,

God of mangers and palaces, of shepherds and kings, come to us on this holy night. Help us to see the signs of your promise and hear the whispers of good news. May we join the songs of praise throughout the world that proclaim your presence among us. Help us to glorify and follow you in ways that convinces the world of your mercy, grace, and love. We pray this in the name of our newborn king, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: ELW #274 “On Christmas Night” (page 9)

CHILDREN’S SERMON

READING - Luke 2:1-7

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.

HYMN ELW #277 - “Away in a Manger” (page 9)

READING - Luke 2:8-15

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."

HYMN ELW #270 - “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” (page 10)

READING - Luke 2:16-20

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.

CHOIR ANTHEM “Can You Hear the Christmas Bells” - Joel Raney

SERMON: Reader's Theater - For Unto Us a Child is Born

Pastor
Sarah
Hagar
Jacob
Moses
Ruth
Hannah
David
Isaiah
Joseph
Mary

SERMON HYMN: ELW #292 - "Love Has Come" (page 11)

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN ELW #271 - "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve" (vs. 1&2)

**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.**

**The little child in Bethlehem,
he was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav'n above
to help a world in need.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. **Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Gathering around the table as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, we remember so many stories shared around tables; tables where bread is broken and cup is poured out, where families gather and generations share, where stories are remembered, refined, reshaped.

Gathering around the table on this holy night, we remember the story of the sacred daring to share our life, the story of the holy donning human flesh and dwelling among us, a story that is at once both heavenly and earthly.

Gathering around the table on this Christmas night, we break the bread and remember. 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Let us sing the words Jesus taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER - sung to "O' Holy Night"

**Our Father, God, Who lives and reigns in heaven—
Oh, may Your Name be kept holy and blessed.**

**Your Kingdom come; Your will be done forever.
Give us this day all of our daily bread;**

**Forgive our sin as we forgive each other.
Keep us from evil; help us not to stray.**

**Your kingdom reigns!
Your power—it has no ending!
Your glory divine!
Father, Son, & Spirit, One.
Our God, forevermore!
Amen! Amen!**

Authors(s): Kevin Bueltmann, Tawn Bueltmann
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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the Lord's Supper, for all is now ready and all are welcome.

COMMUNION HYMNS: **ELW #289 - "Angels We Have Heard on High" (page 12)**
 ELW #279 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (page 13)

SHARING THE MEAL

All are welcome to receive the Real Presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or a Lutheran to receive the sacrament. We do ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus Christ.

If you require gluten-free hosts, please say "no gluten" when you approach the person sharing the host.

The center rings of the trays provided contain grape juice for those desiring it. Cups may be returned to the Acolytes' baskets. The Common Cup is also available.

Children may come forward for a blessing, or to receive communion if they have been through instruction, here, or at another church. If you wish to still receive the individual communion packet (wafer on top and wine/juice on the bottom), please pick one up as you approach the front. If you would like the sacraments brought to you, please let the usher know. Welcome!

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food. Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.

LIGHTING OF CHRISTMAS CANDLES (*Safety Note: when passing on your candle flame, please hold your lit candle straight and upright. Let the other unlit candle tilt in to receive the flame*)

HYMN ELW #281 - "Silent Night, Holy Night!" (page 14)

BENEDICTION

HYMN ELW #267 - "Joy to the World" (page 15)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the newborn King.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "The Hallelujah Chorus" - Handel



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Pastor Sue, along with the staff at Christ Lutheran Church, would like to extend their wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!!





**Serving you this evening in
Christ's love:**

Ushers

3:00 pm

Team Nelson
Brinley Schwenn

5:00 pm

Team Lockman

7:00

Team Blau

Readers

3:00 pm

Jane Cahill-Wolfgram

5:00 pm

Beth Erickson

7:00 pm

Beth Erickson

Communion Helper

3:00 pm

Team Nelson

5:00 pm

Team Legried

7:00 pm

Team Emerson

Acolytes

3:00 pm

Leighton Vieau
Caleb Grinde

5:00 pm

Tristan Andorfer
Madisyn Howard

7:00 pm

Keegan Little
Noah Little

Calendar-Week of December 24, 2024
Wed., December 24

Thur., December 25

Merry Christmas!



Sun., December 29

9:00 am Worship Service



If you ordered a poinsettia plant, you may take it home following the 7pm service tonight. **Thank you for helping to make our sanctuary so beautiful!**

In Memory Of

Erin & Brian Alft Rachel Anderson	Loved ones who have passed Milton & Ella Schumann, Susan J. Anderson
Norma Bowen Randy and Beth Brining Tim and Carol Brommer	Bowen, Draves, & Hackl Families Eugene & Myra Heldt Elroy & Betty Brommer, Richard Scharr, Alton & Marion Steinke
Linda Capener Anne & Jim Emerson David & Beth Erickson	My Parents & brother Mike Dick & Molly Emerson Our Parents: Bob & Leona Symons Harold & Alice Erickson
Pam Hamele	Mark Hamele, Katie Bradley, Frank Bradley
Iverson Family	Greg Iverson (Brother, Husband, Father and Grandpa)
Harley & Sandy Legried	Ron Schwenke, Ila Legried, Lloyd & Anna Marie Legried
Dick & Connie Leonard Lockman & Wolff Families	Tonya Leonard-Anderson David & Erma Carman Emil & Calme Wolff & all our loved ones in Heaven
Stan & Cathy Nelson	Our Parents: Martin & Lena Vick Melford & Valborg Nelson
Pam Olson	Cris Olson (Loving Husband, Dad & Friend)
Greg, Phillip, Vint & Donna Quamme Ron & Loletia Rear Kris Sanderson	Bert & Phyllis Quamme Kelly Rear My Great-Grandparents Andrew & Eliabeth Lyster
Richard and Shirley Stronach Gregg & Janice Tipple	Our Parents & our niece Mandy Our Parents

In Honor of

Pastor Sue & Rod Beadle Randy and Beth Brining Bob & Jane Henze Dan and Kathy Paulson Dan & Pat Zell	Our Granddaughters Adelina & Brighton Don and Marlene Brining Our Family Our Children and Grandkids Our Family
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PROCESSIONAL HYMN #283 - "O Come, All Ye Faithful"



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!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade



SONG OF PRAISE: ELW#274 "On Christmas Night"



1 On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to hear the news the
2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re - deem - er
3 When sin de - parts be - fore his face, then life and health come
4 All out of dark - ness we have light, which made the an - gels



an - gels bring. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to
made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since
in its place. When sin de - parts be - fore his face, then
sing this night. All out of dark - ness we have light, which



hear the news the an - gels bring: news of great joy, news of great
our re - deem - er made us glad, when from our sin he set us
life and health come in its place. An - gels re - joice with us and
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God in high - est



mirth, news of our mer - ci - ful king's birth.
free, all for to gain our lib - er - ty?
sing, all for to see the new - born king.
heav'n; peace on earth, and good - will. A - men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.
Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional

SERMON HYMN #277 - "Away in a Manger"



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



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.
Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905

HYMN ELW#270 - "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"



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!



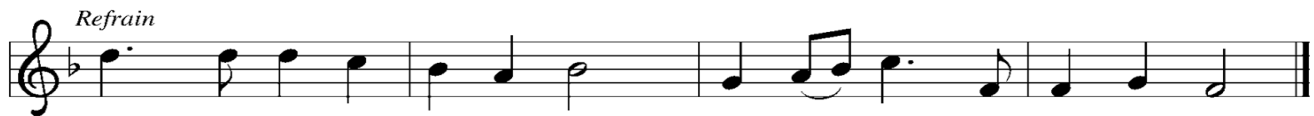
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



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.



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

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915



SERMON HYMN: ELW #292 - "Love Has Come"



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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COMMUNION HYMN #289 - "Angels We Have Heard on High"



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: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol



COMMUNION HYMN #279 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
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!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908



HYMN #281 - "Silent Night, Holy Night!"



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



HYMN #267 - "Joy to the World"



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872



