

The Recipe of Christmas



Welcome to Hope!

We are delighted to have you with us as we gather to worship and prepare our hearts for the season of Christmas. This year, our theme is The Recipe of Christmas—a beautiful reflection on the key ingredients of this holy season: Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love. Together, we explore how each of these gifts points us to the birth of Jesus, the Savior who brings light and life to the world.

May your time with us today fill you with the true spirit of Christmas as we celebrate God's love revealed in Christ!



For Your Information

- **WORSHIP CHECK-IN.** Please take a moment to check in online on the homepage of Hope's website (www.hopelutheranwf.org). A special welcome to guests and visitors today!
- **OFFERINGS & TITHES.** All are invited to make an offering today, as a worshipful expression of thanksgiving to God, and in support of the ministries of Hope Lutheran Church. You may place your gift in the offering plate next to the sanctuary exit doors as you leave. May God bless our offerings and tithes, and bless the ministry which these gifts enable!

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Preston Wagner
Maggie Rockey

Pastor Emeritus
Organist

The Recipe for Christmas

Mid-week Advent Service

December 11, 2024 - 6:30PM

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & TIME OF GREETING

Congregation Stands

OPENING CAROL

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

OPENING VERSICLES

P This is the day which the Lord has made;

C **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth,

C **Our God shall come; he does not keep silence.**

P Prepare the way of the Lord.

C **Make his paths straight.**

P Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

C **Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth.**

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING PRAYER: THE CANDLE OF JOY

R *God our Father, you have given us true and everlasting joy through the gift of your Son.*

C **Grant us joy, Lord, in all the dismal days of this life. Help us now and always to find our joy in knowing Jesus Christ as our Redeemer and Savior.**

(Candle of Joy is lit)

R *"Behold, I am coming soon," says the Lord Jesus Christ.*

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Congregation is seated

ADVENT PROPHECY

Revelation 19:6–10

⁶Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

"Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God
the Almighty reigns.

⁷Let us rejoice and exult
and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
 and his Bride has made herself ready;
⁸it was granted her to clothe herself
 with fine linen, bright and pure"—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

⁹And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God." ¹⁰Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

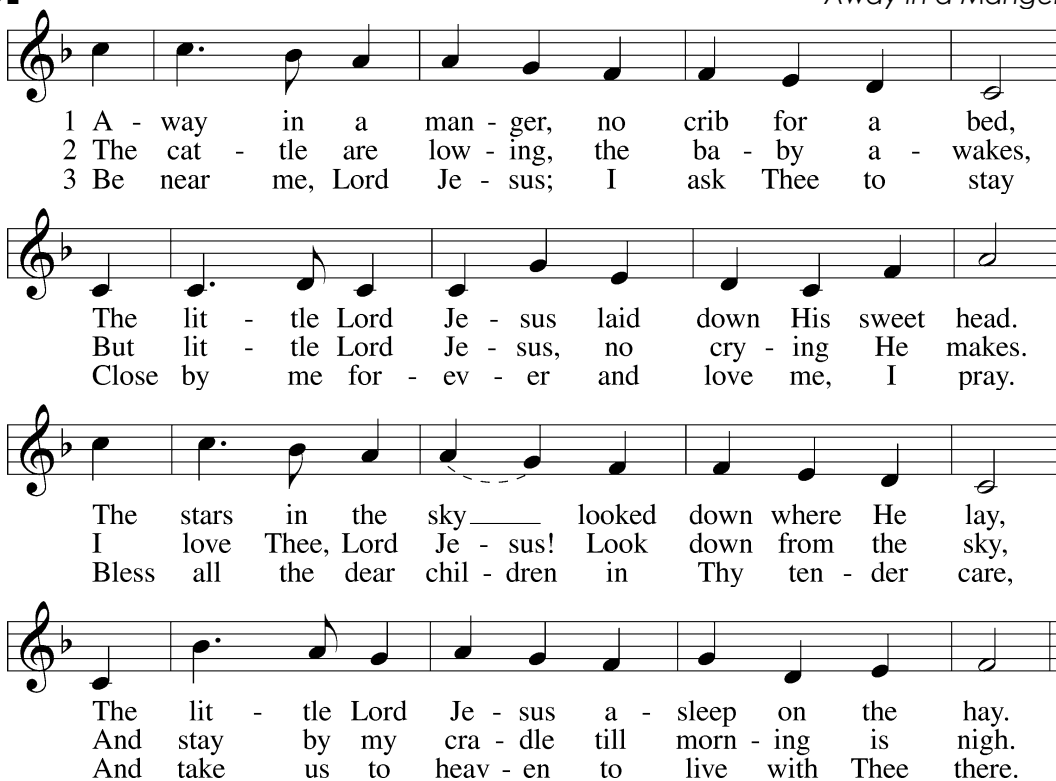
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Congregation stands

CAROL

Away in a Manger



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.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 16:25–33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

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

²⁵"I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

²⁹His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." ³¹Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Congregation is seated

CAROL

What Child Is This



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!

SERMON

"The Recipe of Christmas – Peace!" - Pastor Preston Wagner

Congregation stands

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P In peace let us pray to the Lord;

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Congregation is seated

BLESSING

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the X Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

CLOSING CAROL

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



- 1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

EVENING DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace and quiet,
- C** Rising to faithfully serve him in the new day.

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWS & EVENTS

WWW.HOPELUTHERANWF.ORG



SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAK. There will be no Sunday School Education on 12/22 or 12/29. Instead, on 12/22, we invite everyone to join us for a Christmas Family Hour in the Children's Center! All are welcome as we come together as a congregation to make ornaments for our Hope Family Tree, in the Narthex—and one to take home for your own tree. Let's celebrate the joy of the season together!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS. Add to the beauty of the season by sponsoring a poinsettia to adorn the chancel and windows at Hope during Advent and Christmas. These seasonal flowers may be purchased in memory or honor of loved ones. Sign up by 12/15 online at www.hopelutheranwf.org/flowers. Cost: \$15 each. Questions? contact bevans@hopelutheranwf.org.

KIDS MINISTRY CHRISTMAS PARTY. Oh, what fun! Let's get ready for the jolliest time of the year! Join us on 12/14 from 3-5:15PM for Christmas games, festive treats, and tons of holiday fun just for YOU! The entire family is welcome to stay afterward for a family dinner. Questions? contact bagner@hopelutheranwf.org

KIDS MINISTRY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT. Join us for the Kids Ministry Christmas Pageant on 12/18 as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas—the birth of Jesus, our Savior. Step into the "House of Bread," where the bakery offers more than delicious bread; it shares the Word of the Lord. This heartwarming event is a wonderful way to reflect on the season's message and create cherished memories. Questions? contact bagner@hopelutheranwf.org.

9-12 GRADE CHRISTMAS PARTY. It's time for our annual Christmas party on 12/15 from 7- 9PM! Join your friends for Christmas-themed games, a Live Nativity, and a White Elephant gift exchange. Never played before? It's a fun game where you bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10. Youth take turns opening gifts, with the option to swap for an already-opened gift or take a chance with a new one! There is no cost to attend—just bring a wrapped gift valued at \$10. No sign-up needed, just show up! Questions? contact wspottiswood@hopelutheranwf.org

Advent & Christmas season at Hope

Advent Worship

The Advent season begins with weekend services on December 1 and continues through December 22. Wednesday evening services will be on December 4 & 11 at 6:30PM.

Live Nativity

Every year the people of Hope work together to share the Biblical story of Christmas with our community. Mark your calendar for our two Live Nativity performances: Saturday, December 14 at 6:45PM and Sunday, December 15 at 7:00PM.

Annual Kid's Ministry Christmas Pageant

Hope's children have been busy learning lines, making costumes, and singing joyful songs celebrating the birth of Jesus! Everyone is invited to the pageant on December 18 at 7:00PM.

Christmas Eve Services

Children's Service (3:30 & 5:00 PM)
Candlelight Service (6:30 & 8:00 PM)
Candlelight Communion Service (11:00 PM)

