

Christmas Eve Worship

Dec 24, 2025 - 7 & 9 p.m.



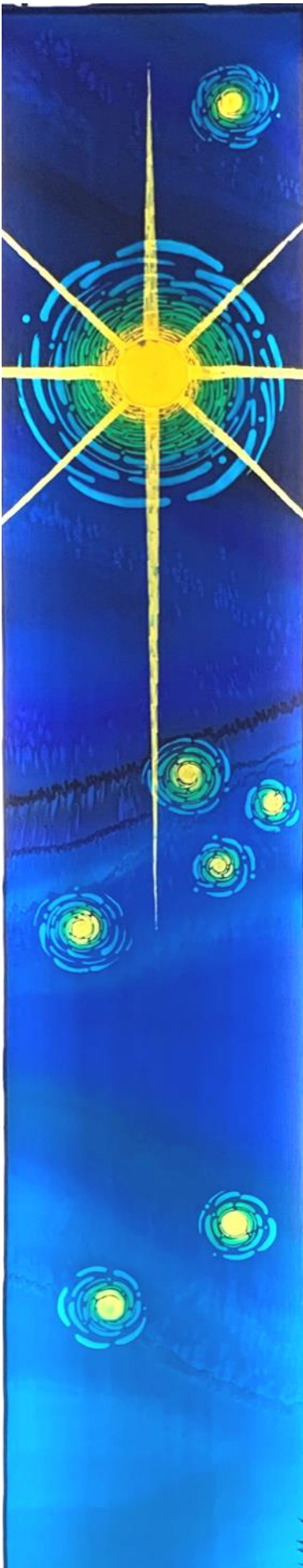
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1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



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 the 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!

Christ Be Our Light V. 5

All: Many the gifts, many the people,

many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

signs of your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

THE PRELUDE

Variations on “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Arr. J.M. Bach, Buxtehude, J.S. Bach

“A Child Was Born in Bethlehem” Arr. Raymond Haan

Trumpets & Organ

(7p) “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Arr. Kevin McChesney

Resonaré Ringers

(9p) Noël – “Good Joseph, Listen to Me” Arr. Louis-Claude Daquin

“Awake, Thou Wintry Earth” Arr. J. S. Bach

Brass Quartet & Organ

Three Carol Preludes Arr. Aaron Shows

“I Saw Three Ships” “From Heaven Above” “God Rest You Merry”

Carillon on “O Little Town of Bethlehem” Arr. Charles Peery

Brass Quartet, Handbell Ensemble, Organ

“Still, Still, Still” Arr. Christopher Tambling

Steve from the Back:

P: Please stand and face the processional at the rear.

Stand Processional Hymn: ELW #283 (st. 1,2,3)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

The Greeting *Steve @ Altar*

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

All: And also with you.

Christmas Candle Lighting: *Camera: Family @ Wreath*

ELW #715 (st. 5) “Christ, Be Our Light”

Lector @ the Ambo:

Leader: Tonight, we light the Christ Candle.

All: The waiting is over. The Light has come.

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

All: On those who lived in a land of deep darkness—light has shined.

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

All: He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

All: The light no darkness can overcome.

Leader: Let us walk in the light of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of the Day *Steve @ Ambo*

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night 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.

All: Amen.

Balcony:

(9p) Special Music: "Were You There on That Christmas Night?"... Sleeth
Hayden Brown & Dawn Schlesinger

- The Word -

The Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7 *NRSV* *Lector @ Ambo*

Lector: A reading from the book of Isaiah, chapter nine.

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. 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. 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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

All: Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Processional: *ELW* #274 (st. 1)

"On Christmas Night"

**1 On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring.
On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful king's birth.**

The Gospel is announced

All: Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

The Christmas Gospel: Luke 2:1-20 NRSV *KLL in the Congregation*

P: 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. 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. 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. 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. 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.” 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!”

When 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.”

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen as it had been told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ. *(spoken)*

Gospel Recessional: ELW #274 (st. 4)

“On Christmas Night”

**4 All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night.
All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God in highest heav'n; peace on earth, and goodwill. Amen."**

Sit

- Let me begin with a Christmas welcome to all who come this evening.
- Welcome to family and friends who have traveled a distance and to you who come as guests or worship here for a first time.
- Holy Communion is offered today. All are welcome to come forward for communion who seek the grace of God offered in bread and wine and promise.
- A gratitude card is included in your bulletin. You may write something you are grateful for and include with your offering during the time of gratitude.
- A word of thanks to musicians who lead us in worship,
7PM to Brett and Marita Wolgast, musicians, and bell ensembles
9PM to Brett and Marita Wolgast, musicians, and adult choir.
THANK YOU.
- Thank you to all gave for the poinsettias and those worked behind the scenes to prepare the bulletins and worship space for tonight.
- A word of instruction:
We will have a lighting of candles when we sing Silent Night Today.
 - After communion, You can pick up your candle or finger light as you return to your seat. Candles are here at the side aisles and in the back.
 - Please tip only the unlit candle for lighting, and hold it upright.
 - You may keep your candle or leave it at the door following worship.

SERMON: Grace and Peace to you from God our Father,
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome

- In your bulletin is a gratitude card. You may write something you are grateful for and include that with your offering during the time of gratitude.
- At the close of the service we will light individual candles as we sing Silent Night. You can pick up your candle at communion as you make your way back to your seat.

Sermon @ *AMBO*Pastor Katie Lowe Lancaster

Stand

Hymn of the Day: *ELW* #267 “Joy to the World” *on the back* →

Lector at Ambo—Craig at Altar

Prayers of the Church

After each portion of the prayers:

L: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

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

Sit

The Offering of Gratitude: *Craig @ Altar*

P: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. During this time of gratitude, you may place your gratitude card in the offering along with any offerings you have brought. You may also make an offering electronically. Instructions are in your bulletin.

Offertory Music:

(7P) "Love Is Come" Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski; Resonaré Ringers

(9P) "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Larter;

Adult Choir with Hayden Brown, soloist and Lisa Wissenberg, clarinet

HAVE BRETT'S MONITOR SET WITH A CAMERA ON THE REAR DOORS.

Stand

Offertory Hymn: *ELW* #294 "In the Bleak Midwinter" (st.3)

All: What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Offering Prayer *Lector @ Ambo*

L: God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving... page 107

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

“Christmas” Preface *Sung*

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:

Sanctus: “Holy, Holy, Holy” ... page 108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: 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. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

What Child Is This



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the 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, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

P: All is ready and all are welcome; The ushers will direct you. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available, just ask the server. When you return by the side aisle, place your glass in the basket and then pick up a candle for the candle lighting. Finger lights are available for children.

The Lamb of God ... page 112

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Handbell Balcony

Communion Music: (7:00) "Rest Merry, Rejoice"... Arr. Barbara Scheffter
Handbell Ensemble

Communion Hymn: *ELW* #296 "What Child is This?"

Let Our Gladness Have No End



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 2 Proph-e - sied in days of old, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 3 See the love - liest bloom - ing rose, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 4 In - to flesh is made the Word, Hal - le - lu - jah!

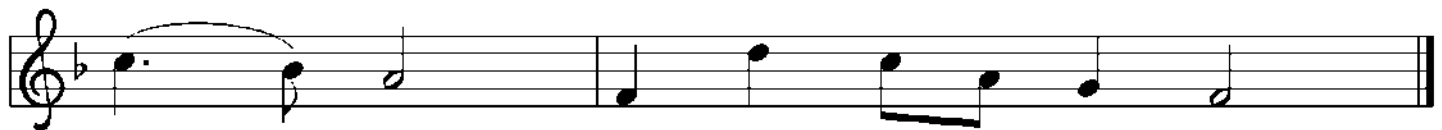


for to earth did Christ de - scend. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 God has sent the one fore - told. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 from the branch of Jes - se grows. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 our true ref - uge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to



save us; Christ, the Son, to save us.

Text: Bohemian carol, 15th cent.; tr. unknown

Music: NARODIL SE KRISTUS PÁN, Bohemian carol, 15th cent.

Communion Hymn: ELW #291 “Let Our Gladness Have No End”

Stand

The Communion Blessing *Craig @ Altar*

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

All: Amen.

Christ is Our Light *Katie @ Wreath*

P: Christ is our Light.

The light of Christ shines in the darkness,
and the darkness does not overtake it. From the Christ Candle,
we draw light, that we may shine the light of Christ.

Let us pray: God of wonder, in the birth of Jesus we behold the light of the
world come near. Send us out in joy to share the good news of your love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, though the Spirit dwelling among us
now and forever.

All: Amen.

Passing of the Light

Katie Lights for Craig and Steve; they light for ushers.

Ushers start at Front & Transept

Steve & Craig go down the Center aisle.

P: Light your candle by turning the unlit candle sideways over the lit candle held
upright. For finger lights, touch the lit finger light, then turn on your light.

30 second fade down on the house lights.

Congregational Hymn: ELW #281 “Silent Night, Holy Night” →

Silent Night, Holy Night!

Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!



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.

- Sending -

Sending and Blessing

P: Go out this night in joy and hope, with the song of the angels on your lips to tell:

ALL: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.

P: And the love of God, the light of Christ, and the joy of the Holy Spirit
abide with you this holy night and forever.

ALL: Amen.

Pastor will cue extinguishing candles together.

House Lights Up!

Recessional Hymn: ELW #270

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *on the back* →

Dismissal: *Steve from the Back*

P: Glory to God in the highest!

All: And peace to God’s people on earth!

P: Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: “On This Day Earth Shall Ring” ... Arr. Raymond Haan
Brass Quartet & Organ

Special Thanks to our brass ensemble this evening:

Dennis Pedde & Roger Lueders-Trumpets;

Dan Malloy-Horn;

Andrew Fletcher & Greta Malloy-Trombones.

Special Thanks to all of our First Lutheran Music Ministry Ensembles
for enhancing our Christmas celebration this year, and to the many volunteers
who helped to prepare, guide and lead worship on this most holy night.

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!



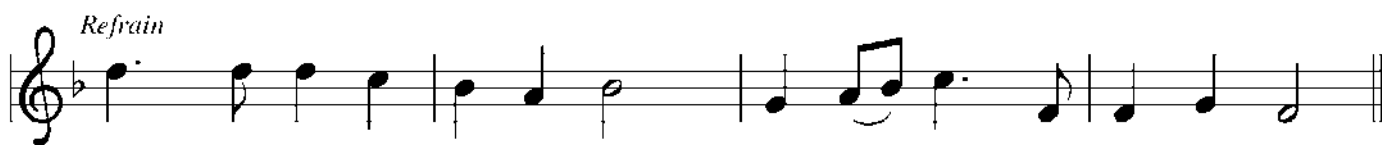
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



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