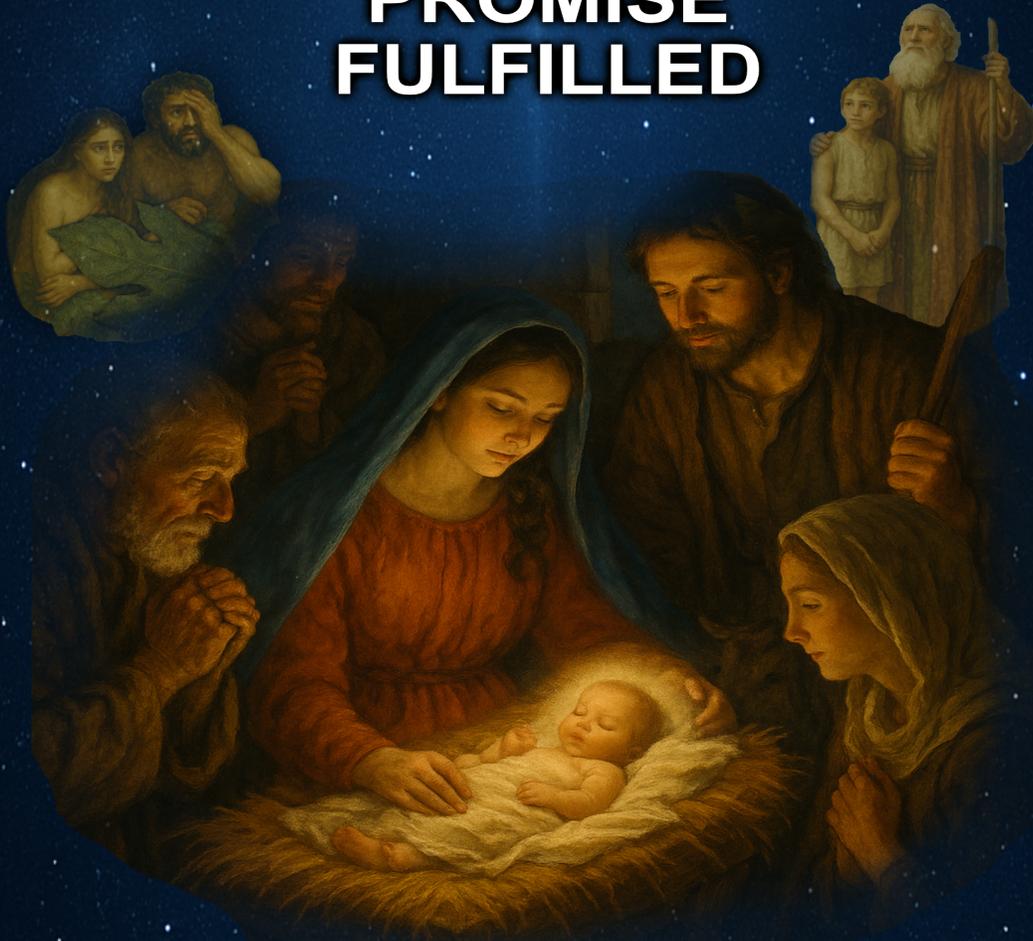


Christmas Eve
Dec. 24, 2025
4:00 PM

GOD'S LONG EXPECTED PROMISE FULFILLED



Peace Conway
An LCMS Church

Reverend
Thomas Boeck
Pastor

A special WELCOME to our guests today.

May you find grace and blessing in the time we spend together. If you are looking for a church home, please see: <https://peaceconway.org/contact-us> and let us know. We would be most pleased to share with you ways in which you might become a regular part of our Christian fellowship.

AS WE GATHER: GOD'S LONG EXPECTED PROMISE FULFILLED

The wait is over. The Child Mary carried, the Savior she pondered, has been born for you and for your salvation. On this holy day, you are welcomed to the manger bed of your Redeemer as heaven touches earth and the Word becomes flesh and dwells among us. All through Advent, we have waited with Mary, hearing the promises, bearing the hope, watching for dawn to brighten the horizon. Today, we mirror Mary's joy as the promise is fulfilled. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not, *cannot*, overcome it. Come, let us adore Him: Christ the Lord, born of Mary, cradled in a manger, and given for you.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC & WELCOME

+ PREPARATION+

379 O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

sts. 1, ref, 2-4



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 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



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80, alt. Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786. Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C the light no darkness can overcome.

P Let Your light scatter the darkness

C and illumine Your Church.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT

P O Lord, in the wondrous events of our Savior's birth, You have fulfilled the promise You made through the prophets and delivered to us Your own Son as our Savior and Lord. Help us to meet Christ in the manger of His Word and worship Him with joy and thanksgiving. Help us to carry the wonder of this night and keep the song of the angels at His birth in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit we honor one Lord, one God, now and to the end of the ages.

C Amen.

366 IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

st. 1



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:



“Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav’n’s all-gra-cious king.”



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–76, alt. Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900. Text and tune: Public domain

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

366 IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

st. 4

4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,
When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an - cient prom - ise bring,
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–76, alt. Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900. Text and tune: Public domain

FIRST READING

Genesis 3:8–15, 17–19

L ⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁷And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

MEDITATION

Pastor Tom Boeck

342 WHAT HOPE! AN EDEN PROPHESED

sts. 1, 4



1 What hope! An E - den proph-e - sied Where tame live with the wild;
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!
Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955. Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth
Text: © 1998 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000223. Tune: Public domain

SECOND READING

Genesis 22:15–18

L ¹⁵And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

MEDITATION

Pastor Tom Boeck

352 LET THE EARTH NOW PRAISE THE LORD

sts. 2–4



2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter. Text and tune: Public domain

THIRD READING

Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

L ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

MEDITATION

Pastor Tom Boeck

357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

sts. 1, ref

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
Refrain
Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

FOURTH READING

Isaiah 11:1–4

L ¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

MEDITATION

Pastor Tom Boeck

357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

sts. ref, 4-5



4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from
5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen



Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y
wide our heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that

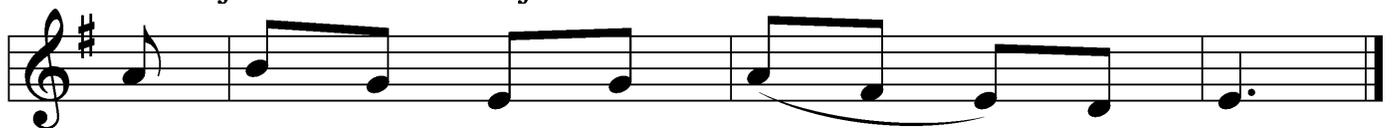


pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
leads on high, And close the path to mis - er - y.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

FIFTH READING

Luke 1:26-35, 38

L ²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

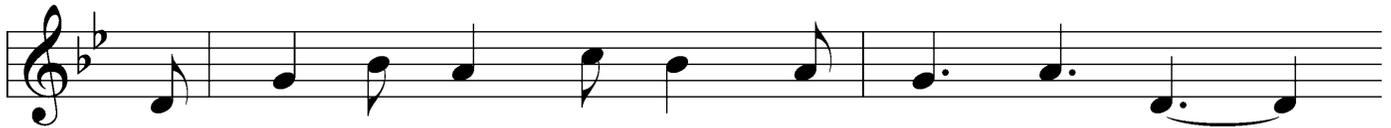
³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

MEDITATION

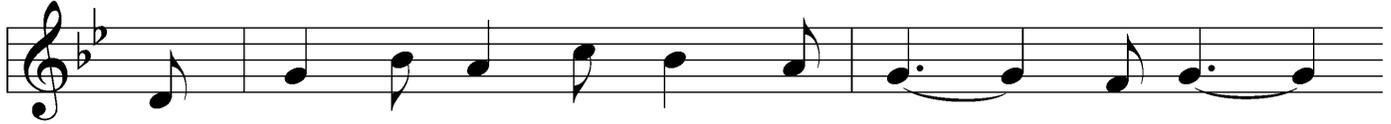
Pastor Tom Boeck

356 THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

sts. 1–2



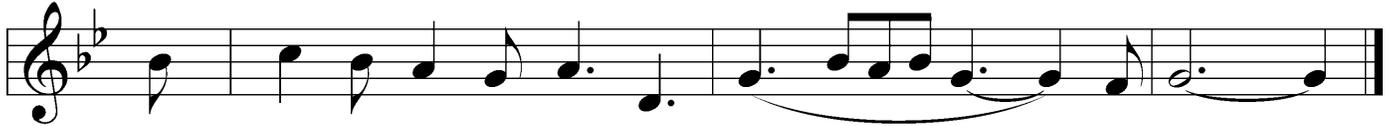
1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 “For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;



“All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, Text and tune: Basque, c. 18th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

SIXTH READING

Luke 2:1–7

- L** ¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

MEDITATION

Pastor Tom Boeck

370 WHAT CHILD IS THIS

sts. 1-2



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



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;



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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98. Tune: English, 16th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

SEVENTH READING

Luke 2:8-18

- L** ⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"
- ¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."
- ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

380 HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

sts. 1, ref, 2



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,



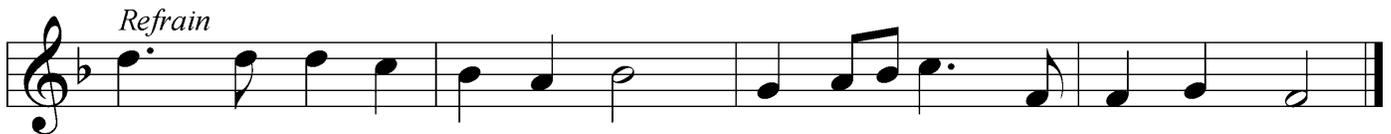
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!



Refrain
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47. Text and tune: Public domain

EIGHTH READING

Matthew 2:1–11

L ¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way.

And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

MEDITATION

Pastor Tom Boeck

361 O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

sts. 1–2



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



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.



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,



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!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93. Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908. Text and tune: Public domain

NINTH READING

John 1:1–14

L ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

THIS CHILD SHALL BE OUR PEACE By Molly Ijames & Eileen Berry

Adult Choir

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray: Merciful Father, we have lived through a time of great uncertainty and fear and now come again into Your presence on this most holy of nights. Deliver us from all epidemics, from the perils of war and violence, and from the loss of job and home. Open our hearts to receive with faith the joy of our Savior's coming and to trust in His salvation. Give to those most in need the courage and patience to await Your deliverance, and give to us kind and generous hearts that we share Your gifts with those around us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O loving God, we give You thanks that Mary heard Your Word and pondered it in her heart and that Joseph served Your Son so faithfully. Bless husbands, wives, parents, children, and all families. Help us to ponder Your Word in our hearts and to live it out that our homes be places of blessing and peace. Accept our songs of praise and the tithes and offerings we bring in response to Your mercy and as signs of our gratitude and faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

THE 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.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us confess our sins to the Lord. Merciful Father,

C **we gather tonight to celebrate the birth of the One who brings us peace. Yet, we are not at peace with You, with one another, or with ourselves. We are sincerely sorry for all we have done wrong and ask Your mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, to forgive us. Give us the will and desire to change our sinful lives by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that we may delight in doing Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P The angel said to the shepherds, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people." So, as God's servant, I say to you, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy." As a called and ordained servant in Christ's church and with His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

STILL, STILL, STILL By Joyce Eilers Bacak

Adult Choir

(At this time, we join Christians all over the world in this significant act of worshipping God through our financial giving. Please fill out the attendance sheet in the colored bulletin and place in the offering plate.)

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

1 John 1:5–7; Matthew 5:14–16

(The pastor takes the light from the Christ candle to the acolytes and assisting ministers. They pass the light on to the congregation.)

P As the light of these candles illumines our faces, it symbolizes the light of Christ, the Child in the manger at Bethlehem, the Savior suffering our death on the cross and soon to come from His throne on high as Judge of all. He is our light here on earth and the eternal light who enlightens heaven, where there is no need of candle or sun. Rejoice, for the Light of the world has come, who transforms us with the brightness of His glory. You are the light of the world. So, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Let us pray: O God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your Son, Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may we with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

363 SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

sts. 1–3



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,



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 Thy ho - ly face



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 Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85. Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863. Text and tune: Public domain

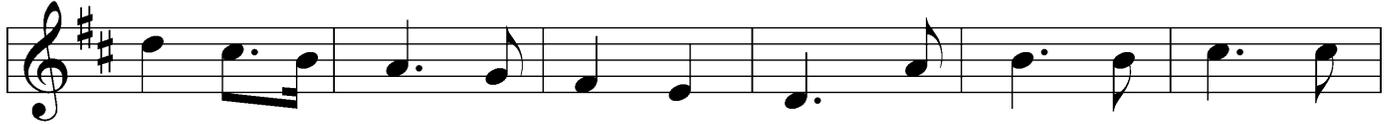
BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

387 JOY TO THE WORLD

sts. 1, 4



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748. Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.. Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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THANK YOU for worshiping with us this evening!

**You are welcome to join us tomorrow at 9AM as we
worship Christmas Day!**