

Service of Lessons and Carols

ὁ λόγος

Christmas Eve 2019 | 5:00pm
Glory of Christ Lutheran Church

Order of Service

stand

CAROL

“Once in Royal David's City”

Choirs/Congregation

1 (Gloria Christi choir)

Once in royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

3 (men)

For He is our childhood's pattern,
 Day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless,
 Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feels for all our sadness,
And He shares in all our gladness.

2 (women and children)

He came down to earth from heaven,
 Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
 And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

4 (All)

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
 Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
 Is our Lord in heav'n above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

5 (All)

Not in that poor, lowly stable
 With the oxen standing by
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
 Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!

OPENING SENTENCES

P Unto us the Christ is born.

C **O come let us worship Him.**

P In the beginning was the Word.

C **And the Word was with God.**

P He was in the beginning with God.

C **In Him was Light.**

P And the Light was the light of men.

C **The Light shines in the darkness**

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world

C **A Light no darkness can overcome.**

P Unto us the Christ is born!

C **O come let us worship Him!**

BIDDING PRAYER

P Dear Beloved in Christ, in this Christmas Season, let it be our joy and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem, and see the Son of God lying in the manger.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church here and throughout the world.

P Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C 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.

sit

MEDITATION

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

⁸ And 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.

⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate."

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ The 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.¹⁵ I 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."

¹⁶ To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

¹⁷ And 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;

¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By 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."

CAROL

“This is the Truth Sent from Above”

Solo

CAROL**“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”****Congregation**

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As prophets long have sung,
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray
To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day.

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. ...

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

CAROL

“Let our Gladness Have No End”

Congregation/Choir

1 (congregation)

Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia!
Refrain

refrain:

On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.

2 (congregation)

Prophesied in days of old, alleluia!
God has sent Him as foretold, alleluia!
Refrain

3 (choir)

See, the loveliest blooming rose,
alleluia!
From the branch of Jesse grows,
alleluia! Refrain

4 (congregation)

Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!
He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia!
Refrain

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26–38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He 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, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

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

³⁵ And 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. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.

³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God."

³⁸ And 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.

CAROL

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

Congregation

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
“All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady.”
Gloria!
- 2 “For know a blessèd mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady.”
Gloria!
- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.”
Most highly favored lady,
Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
“Most highly favored lady.”
Gloria!

THE FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

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.

CAROL

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

Choir

CAROL

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Congregation

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth!

3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv’n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav’n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰ And 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. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And 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!"

¹⁵ When 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." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

CAROL

“On This Day, Earth Shall Ring”

Gloria Christi

(“Ideo Gloria in Excelsis Deo” means Therefore, glory to God in the Highest)

CAROL

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Congregation

1 Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains. Refrain

refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav’nly song?
Refrain

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain

THE SIXTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

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

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.

¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And 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.

CAROL

“What Child is This?”

Congregation

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

(v2 continued)

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

CAROL**“O Sing Of Christ”****Choirs and Bells****Choir: 1-3****Congregation:**

4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

OFFERING**“Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head”****Bells***stand***COLLECT**

P O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

C Amen

BENEDICAMUS AND BLESSING

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting ✠ life.

C Amen

Please remain standing while the pastors and assistants light the congregation's candles. In order to light the next candle, please hold the lit candle upright, and tip the unlit candle sideways into the lit candle.

CAROL

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Congregation

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace. | 2 | Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born! |
| 3 | | Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. | |



Dear Saints at Glory of Christ,

Pastor Krueger and I would like to thank each and every one of you for your ongoing love and support for us and our families. We are grateful to serve in such a caring and faithful congregation. Thanks be to God for all of you who serve here in His church in so many various and essential ways. We appreciate all the time and energy you put into supporting the ongoing proclamation of the Gospel in this place and around the world. God's peace be upon you and your family.

Glory to the newborn king,

Pastor Johnson and Pastor Krueger

The beautiful Poinsettias which decorate our Sanctuary this season were donated by the following members of Glory of Christ:

Bruce & Jill Larson in memory of Jill's father, Ron Quittem

Nora Bell in loving memory of Duane Bell

Betty Reinke in loving memory of Leroy Reinke

Darlene Yount in loving memory of Rev. Bob Yount

Dan & Joy O'Bresky in loving memory of Joy's parents, Keith & Marietta Sylvester

Tim & Carol Beach in loving memory of Meredith Peterson

Leonard Albers in loving memory of Aileen Albers

David & Louise Werts in memory of Louise's sister

Rod & Gwenn Schaumburg in thankfulness of Christmas

The Romansky Family in loving memory of Gladys Romansky

Ruth Decker in loving memory of Warren Decker

Al & Nancy Lindh

Josh & Alisha Christian

Rev. John and Carol Fehrmann

Jerry & Zelda Malo

Craig & Charlotte Smith

Lou Ann Jespersen

David & Gayle Barnaby

Bob & Arlene Strom

Please feel free to take your poinsettia home with you after the service.