



Christmas Eve

Service of Lessons and Carols
with Holy Communion
December 24, 2020

PRELUDE, WELCOME, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

We gather in the name of the Father, the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you, that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We keep silence for self-reflection and contrition.

O Most Merciful God, who has given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, to the end that, by your grace, we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them who believe on His name, He gives power to become the sons and daughters of God, and bestows upon them His Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.
Amen.

OPENING LITANY

The light of Christ shines in the darkness,
and the darkness will not overcome it.

The Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have beheld Christ's glory.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

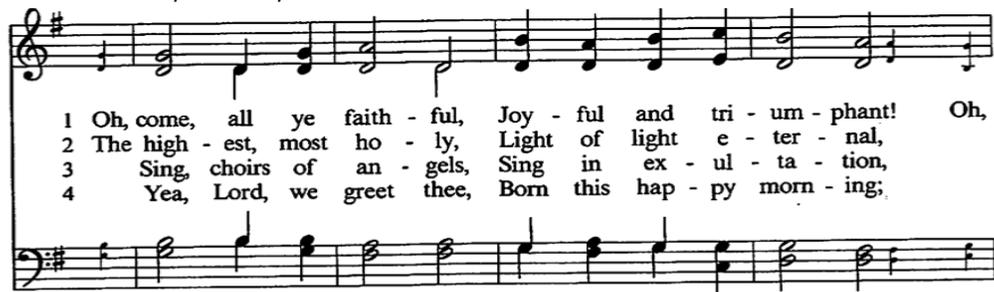
In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

All things in heaven and on earth came into being through the Word of God.

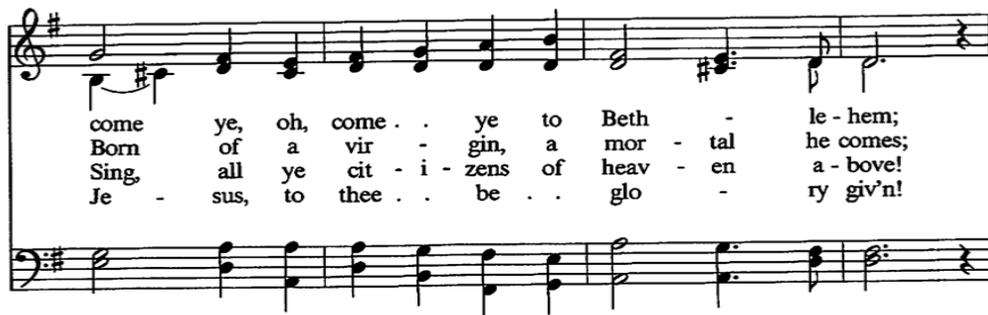
This Word incarnate is the source of life, hope, and salvation for all who believe.

O come, let us worship Him.

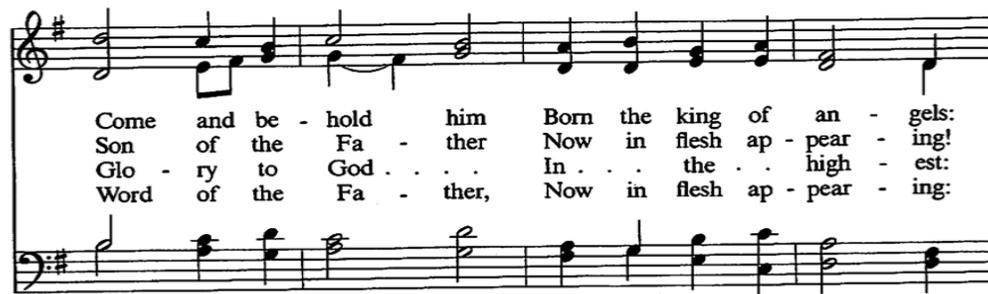
OPENING HYMN: "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"



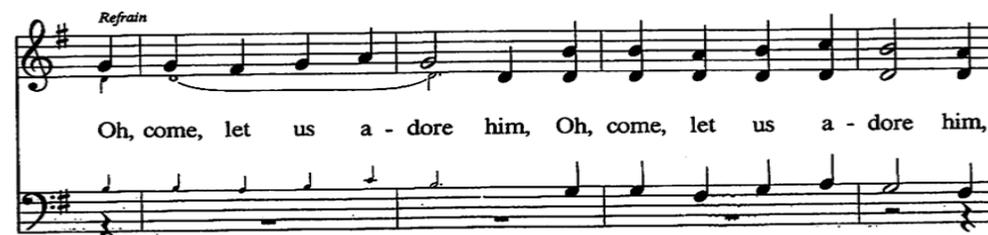
1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! Oh,
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, Light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh, 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
 Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786; tr. composite
 Tune: attr. John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786

ADESTE FIDELES
 irregular

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

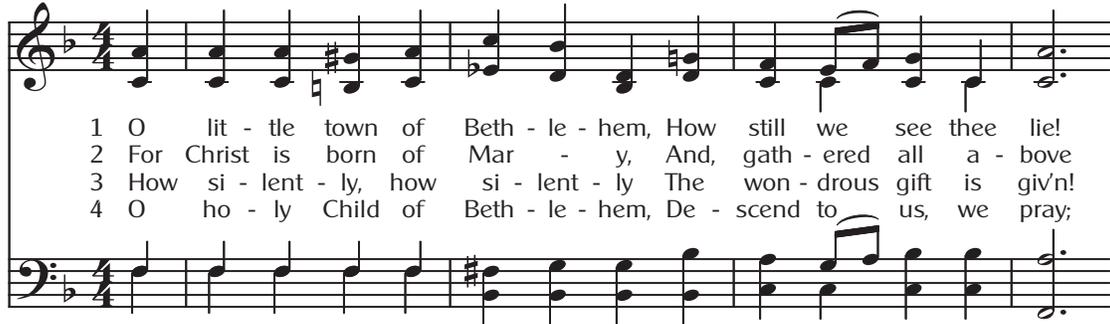
Let us pray. O God, you have made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Grant that as we have known on earth the mysteries of that Light, we may also come to the fullness of his joys in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

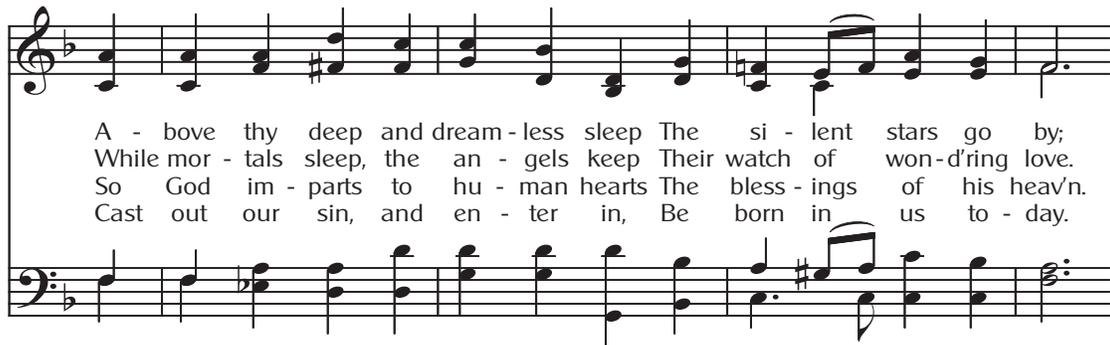
LESSONS & CAROLS

Isaiah 7:10-14 ¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹"Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

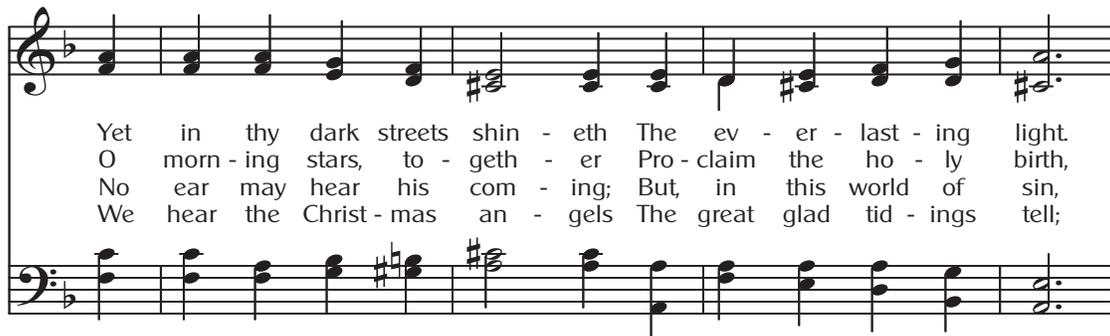
HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"



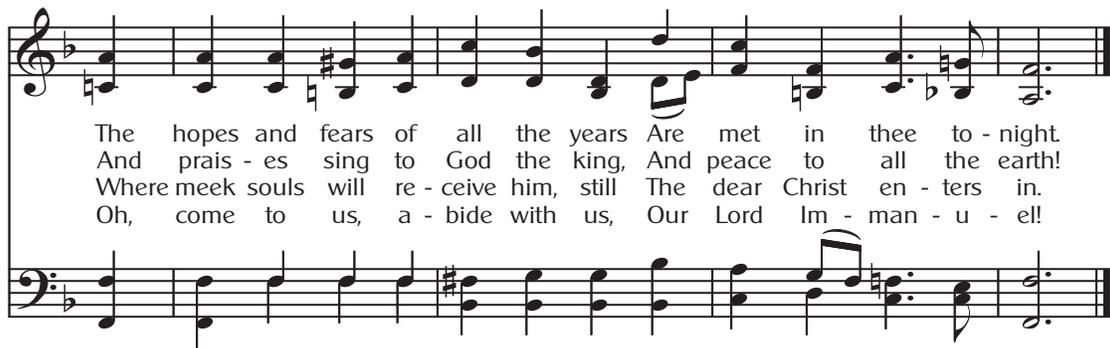
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



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
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

ST. LOUIS
86 86 76 86

Matthew 1:18-23 ¹⁸The birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

HYMN: "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, 1837-1908
 Tune: English Ballad, 16th century

GREENSLEEVES
 87 87 68 67

Luke 2:1-7 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.
 HYMN: "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!

Hebrews 1:1-3 ¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

HYMN: "Silent Night, Holy Night"

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round you
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant

vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,
 stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing Al - le - lu - ia!
 beams from your ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

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

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; trans. John F. Young, 1820-1885
 Tune: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863

STILLE NACHT
 Irregular

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Luke 2:8-14 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 great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of 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!"

HYMN: "The First Noel"

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say Was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star Shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star Three .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north-west, O'er . .

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where .
 in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; And to the . .
 Wise . Men came . . from coun - try far; To seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; And there it . .

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, On a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . great light, And . . so it con -
 king was their . . in - tent, And to fol - low the
 did both stop . . and stay Right. . o - ver the

Refrain

night . that was . . so deep.
 tin - ued both day . . and night. No - el, No - el, No -
 star . wher - ev - er it went.
 place . where Je - sus lay.

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

5 Then entered in those Wise Men three, And offered there in his presence
 Full rev'rently upon their knee, Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Refrain

Luke 2:15-20 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. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

HYMN: "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.

Refrain

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

Colossians 3: 12-17 ¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

HYMN: "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

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Please stand as you are able.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Let us gather our hearts together as one and offer our prayers to God.

Silence is kept for reflection and meditation.

Lord God, you have blessed us beyond our wildest imagination; you have given us family, home, faith community, work, play, and all we need for each day.

Help us to be truly grateful.

It is you, loving God, who breathes life into bodies,
it is you who calls us into existence.

This Christmas and always draw all people to kneel at the manger,
to gather in wonder with the humble shepherds.

Into Christ's holy presence, draw your people;
to greet the Messiah with joyous hearts.

In the comfort of the promised King,
draw all to sing praises with the angels.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.
In a field, a stable, in our homes and hearts you meet us.

Bring healing to the hurt and broken.

Bring comfort to those who mourn.

Bring all to life eternal.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

OFFERING OF PEACE (*John 20:19-21*)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Having been reconciled to God in Christ, we share His peace with others in our households, on social media, and in the chapel. Share the peace without physical contact, then be seated.

OFFERING OF TITHES, ADDITIONAL GIFTS & SPECIAL MUSIC as available

Of the Father's Love Begotten, God So Loved the World (Celebration Hymnal 240 & 350)

We offer our time, talents, and treasures in gratitude for all of the blessings God has given us.

Place financial contributions in the offering plate as you exit the chapel or drop them in the mail.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN: Away in a Manger

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the poor ba - by 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 fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Text: American, 1885
Tune: American, 19th century

AWAY IN A MANGER
11 11 11 11

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

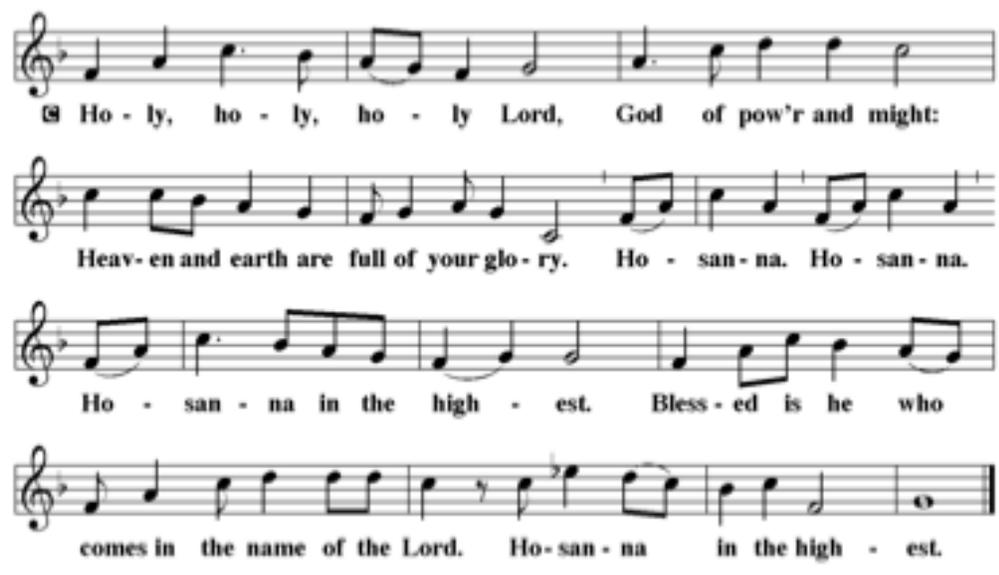
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ("Holy") *Psalm 118:25-26; Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:9*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,

that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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 the 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Please remain standing as you are able.

COMMUNION HYMN ("Lamb of God...") John 1:29

♩ 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.

Please be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who are baptized and trust that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine may come forward by family groups or individuals to commune. The usher will direct you and offer you hand sanitizer. Pull your mask down below your mouth before taking the bread and wine in your hand. Each group or individual will commune then return to their seats before the next group or individual comes forward. If you require gluten-free wafers or abstain from wine, indicate so to the pastor. To receive the Sacrament in your seat, notify the usher and it will be brought to you. If you abstain from the Sacrament altogether, know that we are assured of God's full forgiveness by His Word alone.

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

Once the elements are covered, please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Luke 2 :29-32*

Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re- veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo- ple Is - ra - el.
Glo- ry to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be- gin - ning, is now, and will be for- ev - er. A - men

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION AND DISMISSAL

May God our Father fill you with the light of divine love.

May Jesus, our Emmanuel, bring you assurance He will come again in glory.

May the Holy Spirit lead you until the dawning of the new day.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING HYMN: Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the world! The Sav - ior reigns: Let all their songs em -
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow, Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions

King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
poy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make his bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of his right - eous -

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
Tune: George F. Handel, 1685-1759

ANTIOCH
CM and REFRAIN

POSTLUDE

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WELCOME! We are delighted to have you join us for worship tonight!



Love God. Love neighbor.
Serve with joy in Jesus' name.

worship + fellowship + discipleship

Who We Are - As a mission congregation of the North American Lutheran Church we hold these four core values to be: **Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, & Congregationally Focused.**

Ministers: Joy Mission Church

Pastor: Rev. Paulette D. McHugh

Organist: Lavenia Hentz

Parish Administrator: Scheri Force



Visit us at www.joymission.church