



First Sunday of Christmas
12/26/21
Lessons & Carols Service
Lutheran Book of Worship Setting One

+++

GOD GATHERS US AS HIS HOLY PEOPLE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

We gather to worship the One true God – the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: “Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn” LBW #43

Re-joyce, re-joyce this hap-py morn, A Sav-ior un-to us is
born, The Christ, the Lord of glo-ry! His low-ly birth at Beth-le-
hem The an-gels from on high pro-claim And sing re-demp-tion's
sto-ry! My soul, ex-tol God's great fa-vor; bless him ev-er
For sal-va-tion; Give him praise and ad-o-ra-tion!

Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742–1824; tr. Carl Douing, 1867–1937
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET
PM

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (LBW p. 56) *Matthew 28:19; 1 John 1:8-10*

In remembrance of Baptism, you may sign a cross on your chest or forehead.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We keep silence for self-reflection and contrition.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **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.

AFFIRMATION OF PURPOSE *Matthew 28:18-20, 22:36-39; Mark 12:30-31*

We are Joy Mission Church, missionary-disciples of Jesus Christ.

We love God, love neighbor, and serve with joy in Jesus' name.

APOSTOLIC GREETING (LBW p. 57) *2 Corinthians 13:14*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. **Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature and be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, having been redeemed and made your children by grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

READING: Isaiah 60:1-4a

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you...

HYMN: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" LBW #54

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, By proph - ets seen of old,

From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
 And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.
 Who toil a - long the climb - ing way With pain - ful steps and slow:
 When with the ev - er - cir - cling years Shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 Look now, for glad and gold - en hours Come swift - ly on the wing;
 When peace shall o - ver all the earth Its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
 And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
 Oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road And hear the an - gels sing!
 And all the world give back the song Which now the an - gels sing.

*Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, alt.
 Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900*

CAROL
 CMD

READING: Hebrews 1:1-4

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but 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. ³ He 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. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

HYMN: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" LBW #44

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!

© Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.
Tune: Polish carol

READING: John 1:1-4

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.

HYMN: "Away in a Manger" WOV #644 CRADLE SONG

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 you 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 bright sky looked down where he lay;
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: USA, 19th cent.
Music: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838-1921; arr. David Willcocks, b. 1919
Arr. © 1960 Oxford University Press

CRADLE SONG
11 11 11 11

READING: Psalm 96:1-6

¹ Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ² Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! ⁴ For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. ⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. ⁶ Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" LBW #41

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!

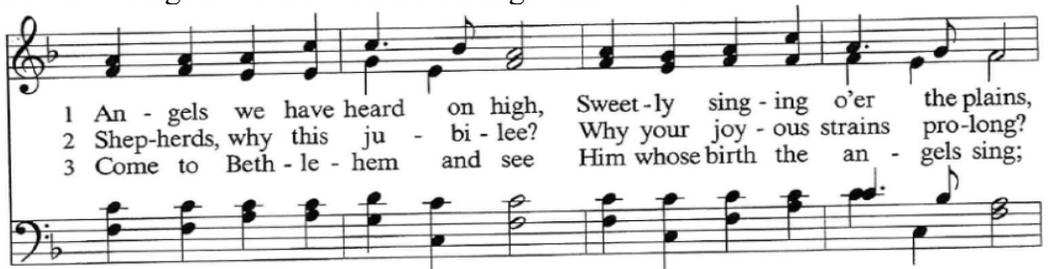
Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

ST. LOUIS
86 86 76 86

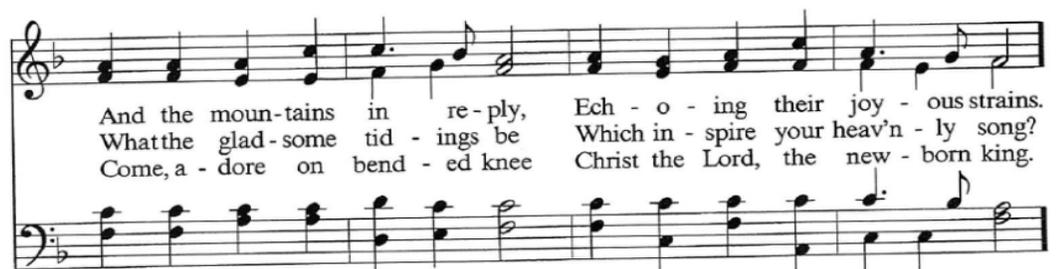
READING: 1 Peter 1:10-12

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, ¹¹ inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

HYMN: "Angels We Have Heard on High" LBW #71



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 in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*Text: French carol; tr. "Crown of Jesus," 1862
 Tune: French carol*

READING: 1 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.

HYMN: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" LBW #50

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; Bright - er vis - ions beam a - far:
 4 Saints, be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in hope and fear,

Ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with man is now re - sid - ing, Yon - der shines the heav'n - ly light:
 Seek the great De - sire of na - tions, Ye have seen his na - tal star:
 Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, In his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

Come and wor - ship, Come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854
Tune: Henry Smart, 1813-1879

REGENT SQUARE
87 87 and REFRAIN

Reproduced as an active subscriber to SOWeR (Sola Online Worship e-Resource) www.solapublishing.com

READING: Philippians 2:1-8

¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

HYMN: "I Wonder As I Wander" WOV #642

1 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how
 2 When Mar - y birthed . . . Je - sus, all in a cow's stall, came
 3 If Je - sus had . . . want - ed for an - y wee thing, a
 4 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how

Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord' - n'ry peo - ple like
 wise men and farm - ers and shep - herds and all, and high from the heav - ens a
 star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's an - gels in
 Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord' - n'ry peo - ple like

you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.
 star's light did fall; the prom - ise of the a - ges it then did re - call.
 heav'n for to sing, he sure - ly could have had it, 'cause he was the king.
 you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.

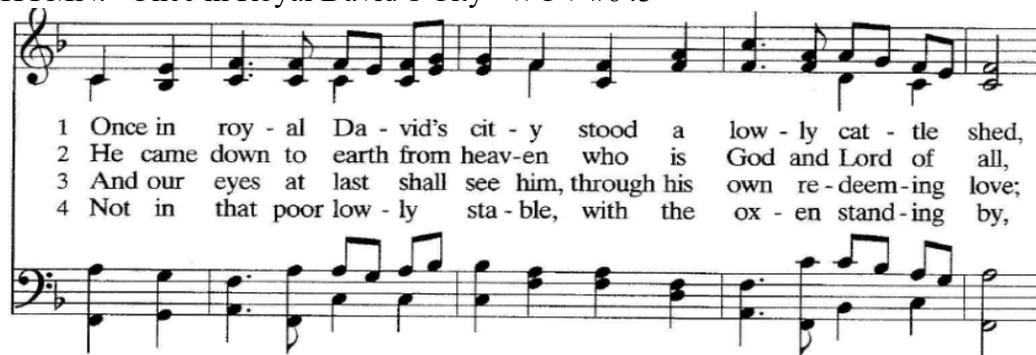
Text: Appalachian carol, collected by John Jacob Niles, 1892-1980
 Music: Appalachian folk tune, adapt. John Jacob Niles, 1892-1980
 © 1934 (renewed) by G. Schirmer, Inc. (A.S.C.A.P.)

I WONDER
 12 11 11 12

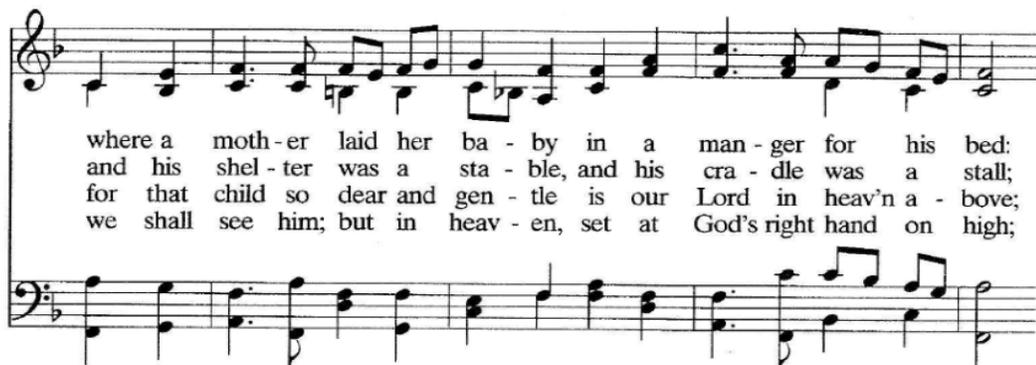
READING: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone...⁶ For 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. ⁷ Of 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.

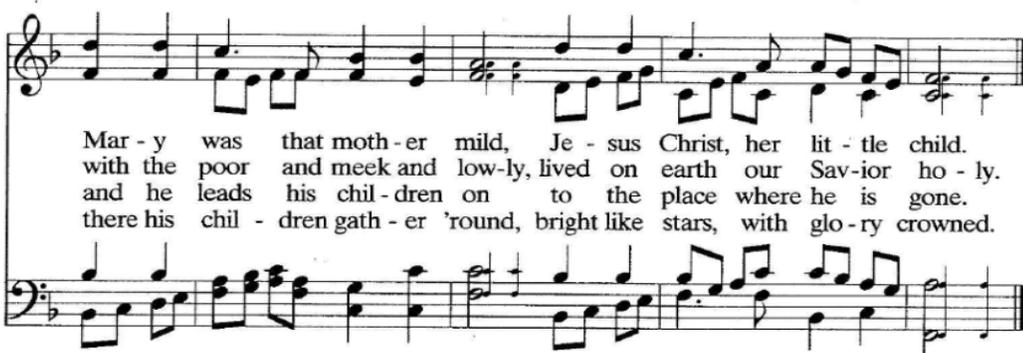
HYMN: "Once in Royal David's City" WOV #643



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed;
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er 'round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-1895
Music: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

IRBY
878777

Please stand as you are able.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people as they have need...

Each petition ends with these words: Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with these words: ...through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 71) *Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4*

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.

Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted (& streamed) by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SB145339. Confession and absolution from Service Book and Hymnal. One License Annual License A-731462

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



Love God. Love neighbor.
Serve with joy in Jesus' name.
worship + fellowship + discipleship

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



Ministers: Joy Mission Church
Pastor: Rev. Paulette D. McHugh
Organist: Lavenia D. Hentz
Parish Administrator: Scheri Force

Visit us at www.joymission.church