



*Christmas Eve*

*December 24, 2021*

## *Christ Mass on the Nativity of Our Lord*

We are honored that you are joining our worship today. We hope to make you feel welcome whether you are visiting with us for the first time or have been worshiping with us for years.

### *Welcome*

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice and reconciliation, we **welcome** all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

## *Worship Aids*

In this worship bulletin, worshipers are invited to **stand** at the places marked with an \* and bold type denotes the **congregation's response**.

Everything you need to participate in worship is found in this bulletin. **Full harmony parts** for the hymns are found in the back third of the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship under your seat. You are encouraged to join us in praying, singing, sharing the peace, and receiving Holy Communion *as you feel moved*. **Assisted hearing devices** and **large print bulletins** are available from an usher.

## *Children in Worship*

We welcome all children to worship with us—including full participation in Holy Communion. Whether talking, crying, laughing, or singing, the sounds of children in worship are joyful sounds of praise. God put the wiggle in children, and we rejoice! Our **Prayground** in the sanctuary and our unstaffed nursery are open for quiet, supervised play. **Activity bags** are available in the narthex. Children's bulletins are also available.

## *A Note About Our Livestream Service*

Today's 7pm service is livestreamed. Most rear-row seats are out of view of the camera, but we cannot guarantee that any seat is off camera. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

## *A Few Requests*

We ask that you silence your cell phone or electronic devices.

We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service.

**Prayer request slips** are located on the table near the main doors.

## + GATHERING +

### PRELUDE

Away in a Manger

setting by John Carter

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

setting by John Carter

### PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

### \*ENTRANCE HYMN

O Come All Ye Faithful

ELW#283

*At the 9pm service, the congregation turns  
to follow the cross as it passes.*

*Full harmony parts for all hymns  
can be found in the back of the red hymnal.*

# O, Come, All Ye Faithful



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 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!

**\*GREETING**

**P:** The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

# \*HYMN OF PRAISE

## On Christmas Night

ELW#274



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the  
2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-deem-er  
3 When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then life and health come  
4 All out of dark-ness we have light, which made the an-gels



an-gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to  
made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since  
in its place. When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then  
sing this night. All out of dark-ness we have light, which



hear the news the an-gels bring: news of great joy, news of great  
our re-deem-er made us glad, when from our sin he set us  
life and health come in its place. An-gels re-joice with us and  
made the an-gels sing this night: "Glo-ry to God in high-est



mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.  
free, all for to gain our lib-er-ty?  
sing, all for to see the new-born king.  
heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.  
Music: English traditional

SUSSEX CAROL  
888888

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Light of life, you came in flesh, born into human pain and joy, and gave us power to be your children. Grant us faith, O Christ, to see your presence among us, so that all of creation may sing new songs of gladness and walk in the way of peace.

**C:Amen.**

**+WORD+**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

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 and dominion of David, to 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: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is Jesus Christ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## Good Christian Friends Rejoice

ELW#288



- 1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866  
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20 NRSV, emended

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

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 God 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.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW#289



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;

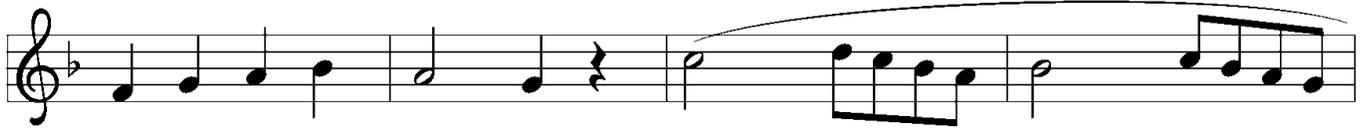


and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

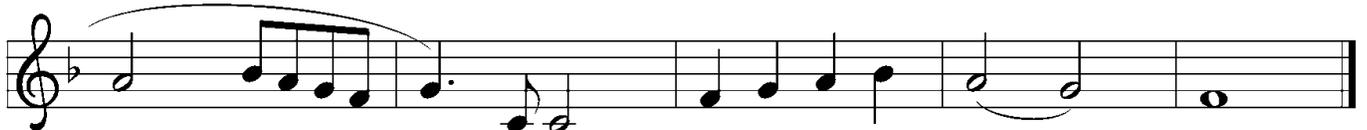
*Refrain*



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



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

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

**\*NICENE CREED**

**A: Together, let us confess our faith.**

**C: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and Earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the  
virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the  
living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver  
of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the  
Son.**

**who with the Father and the Son is  
worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and  
apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A:Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Each petition ends:*

A:Merciful God,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

*Concluding petition:*

A:Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident in your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C:Amen.**

## \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P:The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:And also with you.**

*During this time of Fading COVID, we encourage you to share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.*

## OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service. These pads and pencils are sanitized at the end of each service.*

*During the Offertory Hymn, the offering is brought forward. St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. Gifts may be placed in the offering plate by the door or you can also give on our website ([stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)) or by using the Vanco mobile app (find it in the app store and use the code RTTMYX).*

(9pm service only)

CHOIR ANTHEM

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Carolyn Jennings

# \*OFFERTORY HYMN

## Once in Royal David's City

ELW#269

*Please stand when the offering plates  
are brought forward.*



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 Frances Alexander, 1818–1895

Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

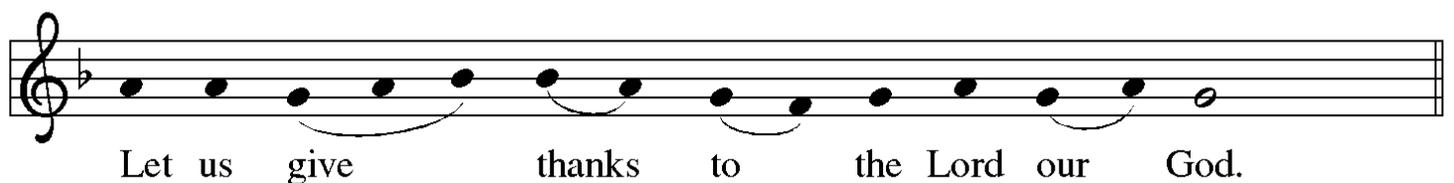
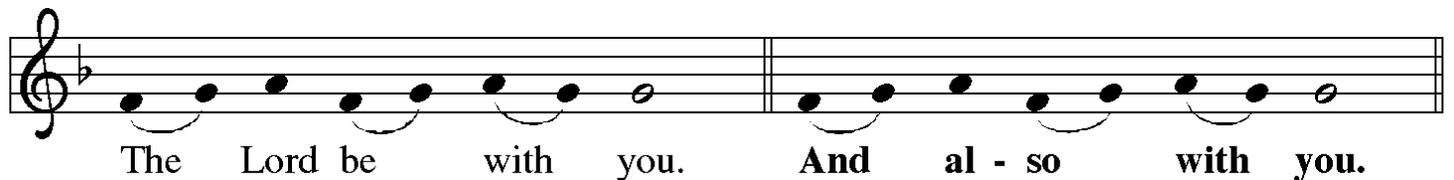
## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

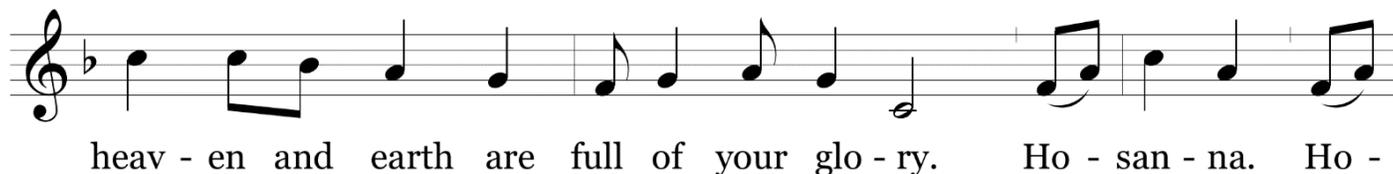
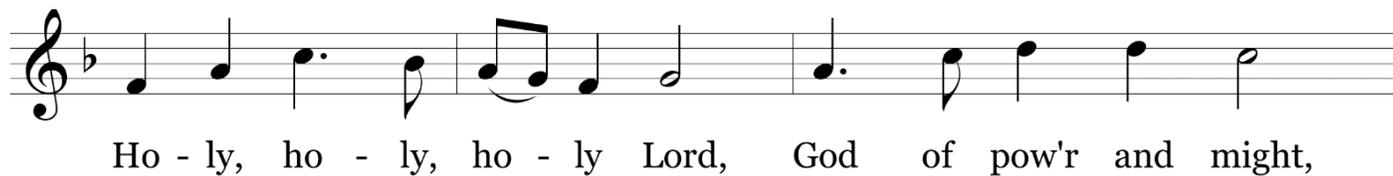
C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



### \*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The thanksgiving may include this acclamation.*

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

*Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The presider will continue when all versions are complete.*

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on Earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

*We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers are offered with pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

What Child Is This

ELW#296

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW#279

In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW#294

# What Child Is This

ELW#296



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.

# O Little Town of Bethlehem

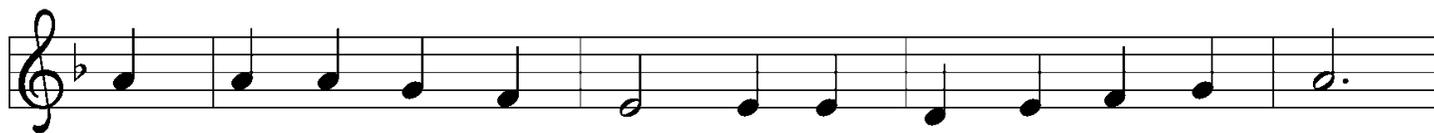
ELW#279



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
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;



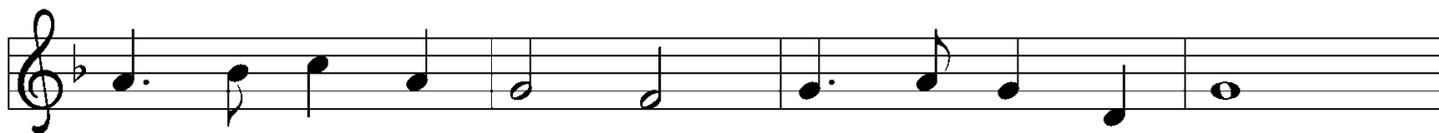
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

# In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW#294



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . . earth sus - tain;  
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894  
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

**\*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING**

*The congregation responds:*

**C: Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## + SENDING +

### \*THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

*The Christ Candle, at the center of Advent Wreath, is lit.*

P: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

**C: the light no darkness can overcome.**

P: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

**C: and the day is almost over.**

P: Let your light scatter the darkness

**C: and illumine your church.**

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enter our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**Silent Night**

**ELW#281**

*A lighted candle symbolizes the presence of Christ.*

*Please do not tip a lit candle.*

*Sing verse 1 first in German, then all verses in English.*

## 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,

Hol - der 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.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**P:** The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

**C:** Amen.

*You may extinguish your candles now  
(hold the upright until the wax is set)  
or carry your light out with you into the night  
(thus keeping your mask on until  
you reach the collection basket outside the main doors).  
When you extinguish your candle,  
notice the light as it is changed to smoke  
and dissipates everywhere.*

# \*SENDING HYMN

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW#270

*At the 9pm service, the congregation turns to follow the cross as it passes.*



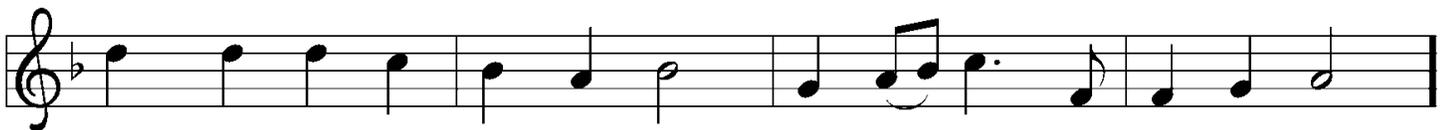
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



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.

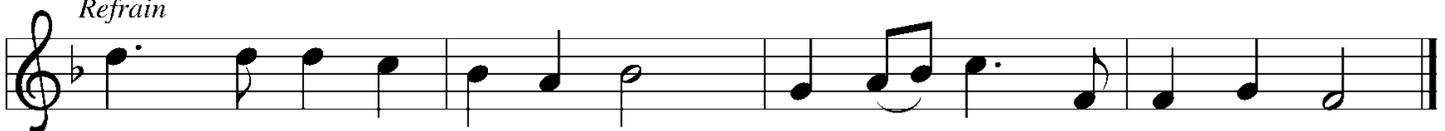


Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



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!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

**\*DISMISSAL**

**A:**Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C:****Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**The First Noel**

**setting by John Carter**

*We depart in peace to continue our worship  
in lives of witness to Christ's love  
in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

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**For many years the Moravian Star** has been a favorite decoration for the Advent and Christmas Seasons, appropriately displayed until Epiphany (January 6).

The Moravian Star, emerged around 1850 out of the evening handicraft sessions of the Moravian Boys' School in Niesky, Germany. Later an alumnus of the school, Pieter Verbeek, began commercial production of the star in his home, which developed into the Herrnhut Star Factory. Soon the star was being shipped throughout the world.

The Moravian Star is a reminder of the star that led the Wise Men from their eastern home to Bethlehem, where they presented gifts to the Christ Child. It also symbolizes the Christ Child himself, of whom the Old Testament said "A Star shall come out of Jacob" (Numbers 24:17). The Risen Christ, likewise, proclaimed himself "the root and offspring of David, the bright and morning star" (Revelation 22:16). Today perhaps more non-Moravians are displaying this beloved symbol at Christmas than are the Moravians themselves.

*Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect  
light.*



## **Chrismons**

The evergreen tree, symbolizing the eternal life given through our Savior, is a background for white and gold Chrismons. Chrismons proclaim our Lord Jesus Christ through the use of symbols. Some of these are copies of symbols from the early days of Christianity while others are new explanations of God's never-changing presence in our ever-changing world. Chrismons are white and gold to represent Christ's purity and majesty. More information about the individual symbols can be found on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**From Pastor Adrienne, Pastor Lecia,  
and the church staff:**

We are deeply grateful for your seasonal expressions of caring and appreciation for our work among you. We pray that each of you will be richly blessed throughout Christmastide and in the New Year!



### **One Service This Sunday**

On Sunday, December 26, we will worship together in a single service at 9:30am. Amy Bartleson Balcam will preach, and our members are invited to join in making a joyful noise - any small percussion, strummed, plucked, or bowed instruments are welcome! *Unfortunately, this service will not be livestreamed,* however, members may enjoy the Service of Lessons and Carols offered by Church Anew and the Minnesota Area Synod of the ELCA. We will return to our regular worship schedule--8:30am and 11am--on January 2. Sunday School resumes on January 9.



**The Poinsettias** are given by  
Stephanie Abel, Dean & Sandy Arnold,  
David Ellies, Tim & Jennifer Garl,  
Gene & Gayl Laughman, Paul & Yvonne Leber,  
Ken & Patty Pederson,  
Catharine Rademacher & Tom Roeger,  
Marilyn Saum, Carol Seaman,  
Melody Smith, Noah Smith, Jim & Allison Ward,  
and Wendy & Matthias Westphal.



## **Worship Leaders**

Alter Care: Barb Unger, Mary Sasse,  
Gail Seegert

Bread: Jim & Allison Ward

Wine: Sandy Arnold

Musician: Debbie Witt

### **4pm service**

Assisting Minister: Ashley Ahlbrand

Lector: Sandy Arnold

Ushers: Randy & Nancy Nye

Greeters: Chris & Sacha Arterberry

Council Coordinator: Dean Arnold

### **7pm service**

Assisting Minister: Gail Seegert

Lector: Chris Martz

Ushers: Lynn & Ute Coyne

### **9pm service**

Assisting Minister: David Rohlfing

Lector: Del Newkirk

Ushers: Letty Newkirk

Crucifer: Karen Rohlfing

Council Coordinator: Amy Bartleson Balcam

## **ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3800 East Third Street  
Bloomington, Indiana 47401  
Office Hours 9:00a.m.-4:30p.m.  
Phone: (812) 332-5252  
[stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)

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*Linked with*  
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de Guzman, Chichipate  
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor,  
Izabal, Guatemala

*In covenant with*  
**LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY  
AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY**  
Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian,  
Campus Pastor  
[lutheran@indiana.edu](mailto:lutheran@indiana.edu)  
Phone: (812) 333-2474  
[lcmiu.org](http://lcmiu.org)

Rev. Adrienne Meier,  
Pastor  
[pastor@stlconline.org](mailto:pastor@stlconline.org)

Rev. Lecia Beck,  
Minister of Youth  
and Christian Nurture  
[christiannurture@stlconline.org](mailto:christiannurture@stlconline.org)

Erica Whichello,  
Parish Administrator  
[parishadmin@stlconline.org](mailto:parishadmin@stlconline.org)

Mike Powell,  
Director of Music and Organist

Dr. Dale Heidebrecht,  
Interim Adult Choir Director

Melissa de Graaf,  
Children's Choir Director

**St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU  
are Reconciling in Christ Ministries**

**We are a Christ-centered community that lives,  
shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!**