

December 24



Christmas Eve Candlelight

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CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

AS WE GATHER

One of the great pleasures of the Advent and Christmas season is the singing of hymns and carols associated with the nativity of our Lord. Many of the texts of these well-loved songs were written specifically for services in the Christmas season based on the Songs of the angels. Our celebration of the coming to earth of Jesus as our Messiah and Lord gives us a great "resounding joy" that lasts all through our years as we await the fullness of His kingdom yet to come!

PRESERVICE MUSIC

SONG OF THE ANGELS HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING LSB 380

*INVOCATION

- Ρ In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

***OPENING SENTENCES**

- I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Ρ
- My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. С
- Р Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!
- Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. C
- The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them. Ρ
- The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be С condemned

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- Ρ Heavenly Father,
- we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have failed to walk always in the paths С of righteousness in our thinking, speaking, and acting; we have not loved You completely or our neighbors as ourselves. We have failed to live as sisters and brothers of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus, whose birth we celebrate this day. In Your great mercy, forgive and renew us that we may be servants of our eternal king to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- God has heard our plea and has responded to our need. "God sent forth His Son, born of woman, Ρ born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law." Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- С Amen.
- The heavenly sounds of the angelic host praising God have echoed since the beginning of time. Job Ρ relates that when the Lord laid the foundations of the earth, "the morning stars sang together and all

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*congregation stands

Psalm 34:1–3, 5, 7, 22

Ethan Swenson, piano

Galatians 4:4–5

the sons of God [angels] shouted for joy" (38:7). The prophet Isaiah writes of a time when he heard heavenly beings sounding out the praises of God (Isaiah 6:24), and the psalmist calls on "everything that has breath" to "praise the Lord" (Psalm 150:6). The traditional French carol "Angels We Have Heard on High" includes us among those who have be blessed to hear the song of the angels. Using the Latin phrase "Gloria in excelsis Deo," which means "glory to God in the highest," we add our voices to the glorious sounds of praise as together we sing the next hymn.

*SONG OF THE ANGELS ANGE

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

***SALUTATION**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

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 shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child is born,

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

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Titus 2:11–14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

SONG OF THE ANGELS

NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE

LSB 386, vs. 1, 4

Isaiah 9:2–7

LSB 368

***HOLY GOSPEL**

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

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.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. 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.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM

WHERE SHEPHERDS LATELY KNELT

LSB 369

TLO Adult Choir, vs. 1-3 Congregation and Choir, vs. 4

SERMON

SONG OF THE ANGELS OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN LSB 384, vs. 1, 2, 4

***NICENE CREED**

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

OFFERING AND SPECIAL MUSIC

Please complete a worship attendance card and place in the plate as it passes. Those who support this church and its ministry by giving electronically are invited to place the "I Give Online" cards located in each pew in the offering plate as a way of participating in this act of worship.

*PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Éowyn Prusak, piano



*SANCTUS (Tune—Hark The Herald Angels Sing)

C Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored! Heav'n and earth cannot contain All the glory of your name! Hail, Hosanna, God most high! Text: Stephen P. Starke

Blest is he who now draws nigh In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing Hail Hosanna! Praises due Be forever, Lord to You!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

***PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, ...So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

*LORD'S PRAYER

*PAX DOMINI

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

*AGNUS DEI (Tune—From Heaven Above to Earth I Come)

O Lamb of God, you take away	And grant us from our sin release,
The sin of all; now hear us pray,	Have mercy on us! Grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION Distribution is at the rail, with both common cup and individual cup; de-alcoholized wine in center of tray. Gluten free wafers available by signifying to pastor/elder. Please use the pew cards to register your attendance at Holy Communion.

HYMN	INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY	LSB 393
HYMN	WHAT CHILD IS THIS	LSB 370
HYMN	LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING	LSB 359

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Pastor takes the light from the Christ candle for distribution to the congregation. **Caution: tip only unlit candles towards lit candles.**

P As the light of these candles illumines our faces, it symbolizes the light of Christ, the Child in the manger at Bethlehem, the Savior suffering our death on the cross and soon to come from His throne on high as Judge of all. He is our light here on earth and the eternal light who enlightens heaven,

where there is no need of candle or sun. Rejoice, for the Light of the world has come, who transforms us with the brightness of His glory.

- P This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.
- C If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.
- P But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,
- C and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.
- P You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

C Amen.

SONG OF THE ANGELSIT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEARLSB 366SONG OF THE ANGELSSILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHTLSB 363PRAYERPRAYERLSB 363

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

Extinguish candles; return them to bins as you exit.

BENEDICTION

HYMN TO DEPART

JOY TO THE WORLD

LSB 387

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Serving our Lord this evening

Officiant: Rev. James Kroonblawd Reader: Keith Prusak Organist: Diane Streich Usher: Brian Nack Projection: Jean Peterson Elder: Bill Breitinger Altar Guild: Sharon Drews and Nancy Strand Cantor: Dave Workman Live Stream: Jim Nicklas



Welcome Guests

We are glad you are here today! Here are a few things we thought you would liketo know to help you feel at home with us today. If you are visiting please introduce

yourself to our pastor, a greeter or an usher. We love to make new friends!

For those with small children, a nursery is available, located in the narthex, if you need a place to care for your child. Children's bulletins are in the narthex, or ask an usher.

Restrooms are located to the east end of the narthex near the main entrance.

Large print copies of the worship folder are available. Please ask an usher.

At this service we celebrate Holy Communion. Please speak with our pastor or an elder before communing if this is your first time receiving the Lord's Supper at TLO. The light-colored wine in the center of the individual communion tray is de-alcoholized wine, where the alcohol is reduced to .05%.



Thank you

"Let all together praise our God before His glorious throne; today He opens heav'n again to give us His own Son." (LSB 389) During the seasons of Advent and Christmas, we lift our hearts and voices, praising God for the gift of his Son, our Savior. Thanks to the following musicians who glorified God with their talents at our worship services: Kristen Gutierrez, Andy Koch, Beth Koch, Isaac Koch, Susan Koch, Hannah Kroonblawd, Lynn Kroonblawd and the seasonal choir, Éowyn Prusak, Merlin Simon, Diane Streich, Ethan Swenson, Dave Workman, Marsha Workman, and TLO Sunday School children.



Devotions for you

Pick up devotions in the narthex and take one for a friend! "My Devotions" are geared for children. "Portals of Prayer", in both regular and large print, for adults.

