

# Welcome to Anchorage Lutheran Church



December 25, 2020

9:00 am



## OUR CALLING

**We exist** as a ministry because of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. As Christians, we seek to know Him and understand His purpose in our lives through the study of God's Holy Word, frequent worship, and reception of the Lord's Supper.

**We strive** to share the Good News of Christ's victory over death through proclamation in our worship services, Christian education programs in our community and support of missions in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest and the World.

**We seek** to live as God's children, open to the leading of the Holy Spirit by witness and discipleship of Christ Jesus through the use of our time, talent, and treasures.

**The Lord's Supper:** The Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior, given and shed for us for the forgiveness of sins. We celebrate this meal often in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice. Baptized adult Christians, understanding and seeking the mystery of this Holy Meal-the nourishing forgiveness and Real Presence of Christ-are invited to participate.

*Should you come to the altar and wish not to receive this sacrament, please cross your arms to receive a blessing. Children who have not yet been confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.*

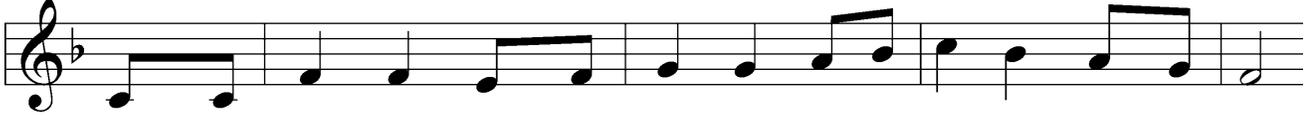
## OUR STAFF

|  |              |                               |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Pastor Tony Schultz                              | 907-301-3378 | tony@anchorage.lutheran.org   |
| Dr. Tamara McCoy,<br>Minister of Worship & Music | 907-272-5323 | tamara@anchorage.lutheran.org |
| Pastor Albino Kong, Sudanese Ministry            | 907-350-8377 | akong04@yahoo.com             |
| Vicar Dave Keddington                            | 907-306-3631 | dnkeddington@gmail.com        |
| Amanda Voshell, Administrative Assistant         | 907-272-5323 | office@anchorage.lutheran.org |

# Welcome

**Prelude:** Joy to the World by Held

## 393 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.



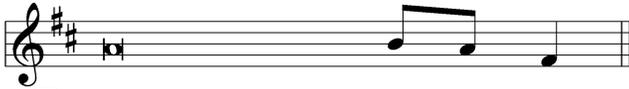
Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:

## Common Versicles

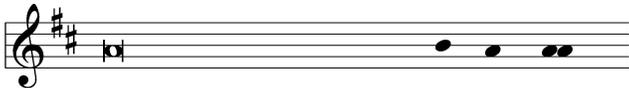
LSB 219



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.



# Christmas Hymn: Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB 374



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;  
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;  
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.  
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.  
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?  
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;  
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.  
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.  
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Tune and text: Public domain



## **READINGS**

### **Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup>You 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. <sup>4</sup>For 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. <sup>5</sup>For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **Reading: 1 John 4:7-16**

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in Him, and He in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **Reading: Luke 2:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And 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, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And 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. <sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a Baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Message: "God's Glorious Truth" - by Pastor Tony Schultz**

## **The Affirmation of Faith:**

“Te Deum Laudamus” (“We Praise You, O God”)

*The “Te Deum” is a composite of hymns dating to the third century A.D.*

*This exultant hymn was considered by Martin Luther to be second only to the Apostles’ Creed as a proclamation of faith:*

Pastor: We praise You, O God.

**People: We acclaim You as Lord; all creation worships You, Father everlasting.**

Pastor: To You all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise;

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

Pastor: The glorious company of the apostles praise You.

**People: The noble fellowship of prophets praise You.**

Pastor: The white-robed army of martyrs praise You.

**People: Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim  
You; Father of majesty unbounded, Your glorious,  
true and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, Advocate  
and Guide.**

Pastor: You, Christ, are the King of Glory, the eternal Son of  
The Father. When You became incarnate to set us  
Free, You humbly accepted the Virgin’s womb.

**People: You overcame the sting of death, and opened the  
Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.**

Pastor: You are seated at God’s right hand in glory.

We Believe that You will come to be our judge.

**ALL: come then, lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and  
bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.**

## **PRAYER**

### **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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **Distribution**

**Away in a Manger**

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

**Post Communion Prayer**

## Benedicamus

LSB 228



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 228



**P** The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**C** A - men.

## 387 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows 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  
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



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.

### Acknowledgments

Matins from Lutheran Service Book  
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.

## Postlude: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates by Williams



# *Merry Christmas!*

And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 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, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” - Luke 1:30-33



*Who is Missing?*

*Shepherds, sheep, and Wise Men too  
The Baby, the Christ Child, all to view.  
He is the one of Whom we Sing.  
Our mighty Savior, Lord and King.*

*Where is Herod or the High Priest?  
Enjoying libations and succulent feasts?  
Pharisees, Sadducees, the proud not found.  
The manger they would not surround.*

*Oh.. the oddity of Jesus' birth.  
To the world, of little worth.  
Yet, He is our majestic King.  
His praises will forever ring!*

ajms 2020 Christmas Poem

**Anchorage Lutheran Church**

1420 N Street Anchorage, AK 99501-4961

(907) 272-5323

[office@anchorage.lutheran.org](mailto:office@anchorage.lutheran.org)

[www.anchorage.lutheran.org](http://www.anchorage.lutheran.org)

**Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am – 12:30 pm/ 1pm-3:30pm**