



FOR

unto us a

Child

is born, Unto us a

Son is given

And the government shall be

upon His shoulder

And His name shall be called

WONDERFUL

Counsellor

The Mighty God

The Everlasting Father

THE PRINCE OF PEACE

ISAIAH

9:6



*The red rose on our altar is a reminder of
our Lord who is called the "Rose of Sharon"
in Isaiah 44:1 and is a symbol of
the promised Messiah based on this prophesy.*

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



December 24, 2020

10:30PM

AS WE GATHER

Even the way we say it often masks Him who is the center of it all. Merry Christmas, we say! The world has attempted to take over the holy day and make it a generic holiday. But hidden in the name is the One whose promise, annunciation, incarnation, and birth make this night unique. Tonight, we work to remember what is so easily forgotten and to rehearse the who, what, and why of this special day. We come to hear the Word of God, to have our Lord's birth placed in context with all the glorious details, and to meet Christ, our everlasting gift. Tonight, we put the Christ and the Mass together again and respond with joyful acclamation: Christ is born!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

"Adeste Fideles"

sett'g: Jacob B. Weber

The sanctuary is a place of meditation and preparation for worship. Therefore, as the prelude begins, we cease our conversations and quiet our hearts to converse silently with God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Please match the volume of the leader, from meaningful softness to joyous exclamation!)

P: In the stillness of this night—

C: **a gift is given.**

P: In the stillness of this night—

C: **a gift is given wrapped in swaddling clothes.**

P: In the stillness of this night—
C: a gift is given wrapped up in human flesh.
P: In the stillness of this night—
C: our Savior is born!
P: In the stillness of this night—
C: we unwrap our gift!
P: In the stillness of this night—
C: we come to worship Him!

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *LSB 357; v.1*

I O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
captive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Tune and text: Public domain

THE PROCLAMATION OF CHRISTMAS

P: 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. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Arise! Shine, For your light has come; and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!

(Please stand and face the Processional Cross)



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

(Musical interlude)

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



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text and tune: Public domain

THE GREETING AND PRAYER

P: Unto us a child is born.

C: **Unto us a Son is given.**

P: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

C: **Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

P: Grace and peace be yours in full measure through your knowledge of the Father and of His Son come to earth, Jesus Christ, our Lord!

C: **The peace of the Lord be with you, also.**

P: Let us pray together:

C: **O God, because You caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of true Light, grant that we who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full measure of its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Savior Has Become My Son Tonight”
Kristin Reagin, soloist

arr: Jeff Lippencott



† CHRISTMAS EVE READINGS †

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 9:2-7

²The 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.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT

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.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“O Holy Night”
Kristin Reagin, soloist

words: Cappeau de Roquemaure
Music: Adolphe C. Adam

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

*(Jesus was in the beginning is now and always will be...
from the beginning to the end...He alone is the Word)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the first chapter.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: This is the Gospel of our newborn King.

THE SERMON HYMN

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

LSB 384



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
△ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have been, And that future years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

CHRISTMAS EVE SERMON



John 1:14

Rev. Dean Pfeffer

Note: The Offering is received in the back of the Sanctuary.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P:** Tonight we remember the greatest gift ever given. Tonight we have a chance to decide anew whether we'll be in the silence of shepherds and listening for His voice, or in the clamor of busy Bethlehem, missing the moment. Tonight we have a chance to decide anew whether we'll be in the Temple praying for the Messiah, or out in the street preparing the way for His coming. Tonight we have a chance to decide anew whether we'll journey alongside Jesus to His cross, or cringe at the sight and run the other direction. Father, I pray that tonight You would restore to us the real Gift of Christmas—the simple, but profound message of salvation, through Jesus, Your Son, the Savior. Amen.
- C:** **Almighty God, though we are completely unworthy, You have given to us this night the most wonderful gift we could ever imagine! You have given Your Son, born in a lowly stable in Bethlehem. You have sent Him to teach us right ways to live. And You have sent Him to die for us, so that we will not be lost forever in our sin. Thank You for this marvelous gift! Thank You that we have been born again and made Your children by adoption and grace. Help us to live in this world with self-control, right conduct, and**

devotion to You, O God. Forgive our sins, and renew us daily by the power of Your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: God is for you and with you. As His called and ordained servant of the Word, I tell you that your sins are forgiven because of Jesus, the baby given, the Savior resurrected! In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. To You, our newborn King, we give thanks and praise forever and ever.

C: **We sing with the angels, we kneel with the shepherds, we worship with the wise men, we rejoice with the saints. Amen.**

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

(tune: LSB 366)

**Our Father, Lord, on heav'ns high throne, Most holy be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done On earth—in heav'n the same.
Give us this day the food we need; Forgiven may we be;
Into temptation do not lead; From evil set us free.**

**Yours is the kingdom; unto You In grateful love we bow;
And Yours the pow'r, Lord, let us view Your mighty presence now.
The glory Yours; Your praise be sung By angel hosts and men
In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue Forevermore! Amen.**



☩ CHRISTMAS COMMUNION ☩

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We listen again to the very words spoken by Jesus Christ in the upper room, “take and eat, this is my body... take and drink, this is my blood.” We prepare to receive what Jesus has promised to share with us, His very presence. As we eat this bread and drink this wine, Christ nourishes us, forgives us and strengthens us with His presence.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI

(tune: LSB 370)

O Lamb of God, O Holy Child, who takes the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the son of Mary.
This, this is your body giv'n, Your precious blood, the gift of heav'n.
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the son of Mary.

(The congregation may be seated.)

COMMUNION STATEMENT

If you desire to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please remember that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is available to those who: ¹Are baptized AND instructed in the Christian faith; ²Examine themselves in a manner appropriate to adult maturity and recognize their own need for forgiveness; ³Believe that the Crucified and Risen Lord is truly present in, with and under the bread and wine; ⁴Believe that in this sacrament God gives us forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith; ⁵Accept their place of responsibility in the whole church on earth. If this is your sincere belief, then joyfully share this sacrament with us. If this is not your belief, please remain seated for a time of prayer on the many blessings God has given you. If you have any questions, please see a pastor or an elder. Please remember the words of St. Paul, "For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Cor. 11:29) For those with dietary restrictions, a light-colored grape juice is also served in the center of the tray, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Our COVID-19 procedure for today: ¹We will commune the pulpit side, then the lectern side; ²Be sure to use the hand sanitizer before you exit your pew to come forward; ³Keep your mask ON until you approach the altar, and at that time, you may lower your mask to receive the Sacrament. Please return your mask to its "normal position" as you return to your seats.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

LSB 361



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.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Tune and text: Public domain

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

LSB 380



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 ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Refrain



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

Tune and text: Public domain

COMMUNION BLESSING

THANKSGIVING

(tune: "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen")

Oh, thank the Lord and sing His praise, What He has done proclaim!

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice And proudly bear His name

Who leads His thankful people forth His promises to claim.

Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

Lord, let Your servant go in peace, Your word has been fulfilled.

My eyes have seen the saving work Which for the world You willed:

The glory of Your chosen race As light for all revealed.

Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.



THE CANDLELIGHT HYMN "Silent Night, Holy Night"

LSB 363

with Hope Ringers

(While the candles are being lit, the bells will play through one verse; then, with the bells & piano, we will hum a verse; following that we will lift our voices in song.)



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,



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	Thy	ho - ly	face



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 Thy



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

Tune and text: Public domain

BENEDICTION

P: The almighty God, who sent His Son to take our nature upon Him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of His holiness.

C: **Amen.**

P: God, who sent His angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

C: **Amen.**

P: God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you His peace and favor.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you and keep you and send you forth with great joy!

C: **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

(Please extinguish candles & place in box in the Narthex as you leave worship.)



CLOSING HYMN

"Joy To The World"

LSB 387



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.

Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE

"Joy To The World"

(Handel) James Marriett





*We invite you to join us for our
Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion at 10:30am*



Serving the Lord this Christmas Eve:

Officiant.....Rev. Dean R. Pfeffer, *Senior Pastor*
Musicians.....Christine Mansell, *Director of Music*
Patricia Bender, Barbara Carnicelli, Susan Johns, Vic Larsen
Soloist.....Kristin Reagin
Handbell Choir Director.....Barbara Carnicelli
Crucifer.....6:30/Lana Hartmann; 10:30/Lana Hartmann
Torch Bearers.....6:30/Kaylee Greatens & Tristan Mercier;
10:30/Bryan Greatens & Abby Kelly
Lector.....6:30/Tena Matthews; 10:30/Gloria Warner
Elder on Duty.....6:30/Jim Carnicelli; 10:30/Todd Warner
Communion Assistant.....10:30/Todd Warner
Flowers.....Hope's Staff
Health Care Professional on Duty.....6:30/Oz Vargas; 10:30/April Walkenhorst
Ushers.....Team 2

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
the Staff of Hope Lutheran Church in memory and in honor of ALL of Hope's members & friends*



Christmas Poinsettias

Placed by:

Jim & Barbara Carnicelli

Jim & Kathy Drapp

Ken & Becky Hartmann

Stuart & Sandy Howell

Wendell & Pam Lattz

Linda Luce

Mike & Willa McMinn

Mark Nash

Niver-Kimbrell family

MaryAnn Paris

Pastor & Liz Pfeffer

Olando & Deena Rivera

Nick & Nora Trivunovich

Joyce Van Matre

Warner family

Tom & Ellen Whitehurst

In Loving Memory of:

Roger Loam

Ted & Jevne Drapp; Ed Reiter

Mark Stefanos; Joyce Warner

Sandy Adams, Michael Sullivan

loved ones

Richard Luce

Sean McMinn

Jack & Mary Lou Nash

Wayne & Leona Kenemuth; Don Niver;

Lyall & Donna Niver; Betsy Scranton

family

loved ones

Eddie Figueroa; Florence Geronimo

Justina Trivunovich

Richard Van Matre

Don & Joyce Warner

Ann Petrowsky; Richard & Virginia Whitehurst



Christmas Poinsettias

Placed by:

Jim & Barbara Carnicelli

Cindy Kemp

Christine Mansell

Mike & Willa McMinn

Niver-Kimbrell family

MaryAnn Paris

Pastor & Liz Pfeffer

Nick & Nora Trivunovich

In Honor of:

Suzanne Carnicelli

Ganesham, Megha, Kaveri Naidu in India;
Mina & Ale in Budapest, Hungary

Hope's Ministries

Heather McMinn-Willson

children & grandchildren

family

children & grandchildren

children & grandchildren

To the Glory of God:

Larry & Connie Harsh

Wendell & Pam Lattz

Niver-Kimbrell family

MaryAnn Paris

Ron & Barb Pennekamp

*Poinsettias may be taken home following
the Christmas Day worship service.*





Winter Worship

SUNDAYS @ 8:00 & 10:30am

10:30am - live-stream

4:00pm - Spanish

WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30pm



Merry Christmas

from the Staff of Hope Lutheran Church

Pastor Pfeffer Pastor Miguel

Christine Jessica

