

✠ Christmas Eve ✠

December 24, 2023 - 4:00 pm

Divine Service, setting 1

Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

St. Louis, MO



5218 Neosho ◆ 63109 ◆ hopelutheranstl.org ◆ 314-352-0014

Rev. Randy Asbury, Pastor
Mr. Matthew Janssen, Kantor

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Entrance Hymn

Once in Royal David's City
LSB 376
setting by Robert Powell

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
 3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His
 5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
 day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
 own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and
 ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in

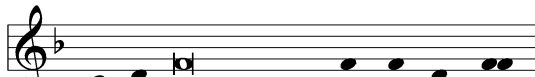


ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
 sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
 help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He
 gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He
 heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
 leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.
 stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

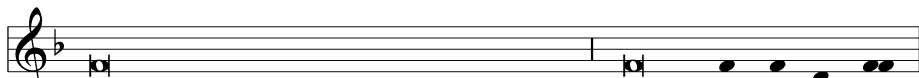
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.




C Lord, have mer - cy.




A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



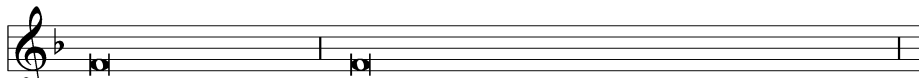
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



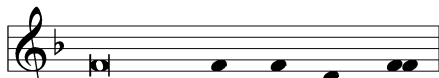
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



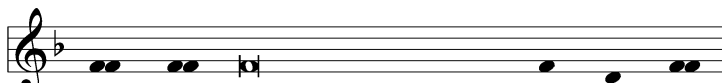
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.



C A - - men.

Gloria

Angels We Have Heard on High
LSB 368
setting by K. Lee Scott



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.

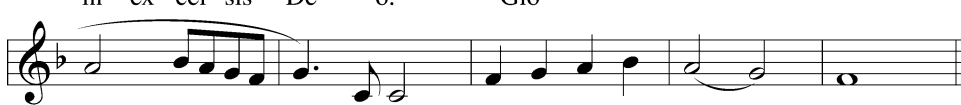
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex-cel-sis De - o. Glo - - -



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. 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; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2–7

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 shined.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Oh sing to the LORD a | new song;*
sing to the LORD, | all the earth!

Sing to the LORD, | bless his name;*
tell of his salvation from | day to day.

Declare his glory among the | nations,*
his marvelous works among all the | peoples!

For great is the LORD, and greatly | to be praised;*
he is to be feared a- | bove all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are worthless | idols,*
but the LORD made the | heavens.

Splendor and majesty are be- | fore him;*
strength and beauty are in his sanctu- | ary.

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the | peoples,*
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength!

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Worship the LORD in the splendor of | holiness;*
tremble before him, | all the earth!

Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns!

Yes, the world is established; it shall nev- | er be moved;*
he will judge the peoples with | equity.”

Let the heavens be glad, and let the | earth rejoice;*
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and every- | thing in it!

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the LORD, | for he comes,*
for he comes to | judge the earth.

He will judge the world in | righteousness,*
and the peoples in his | faithfulness.

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.

G Thanks be to God.

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem
LSB 361

The hymn is sung to alternating tunes.

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth!

3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.


4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-93
Text: Public domain

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Mode VI Alleluia

All: 
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.


Solo: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord. Let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

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


G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each

to his own town. 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, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 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.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. 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. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When 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." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And 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.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of Response

Go Tell It On the Mountain
LSB 388

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;
Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Hymn of the Day

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

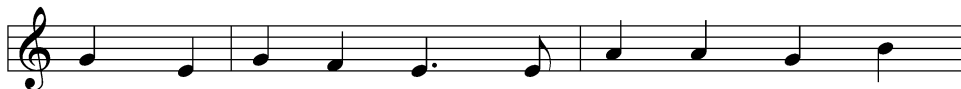
LSB 358

The first five verses declare the joyful words of the angel proclaiming the wondrous news of Jesus' birth.

Stanza one is sung by the choir in a setting by Michael Praetorius



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swad - dling



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,
clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth, Shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share."
in - fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

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

Sit

Anthem

*Love Came Down at Christmas
text by Christina Rossetti
setting by Timothy Shaw*

*Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angel gave the sign,*

*Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus,
but wherewith for sacred sign?*

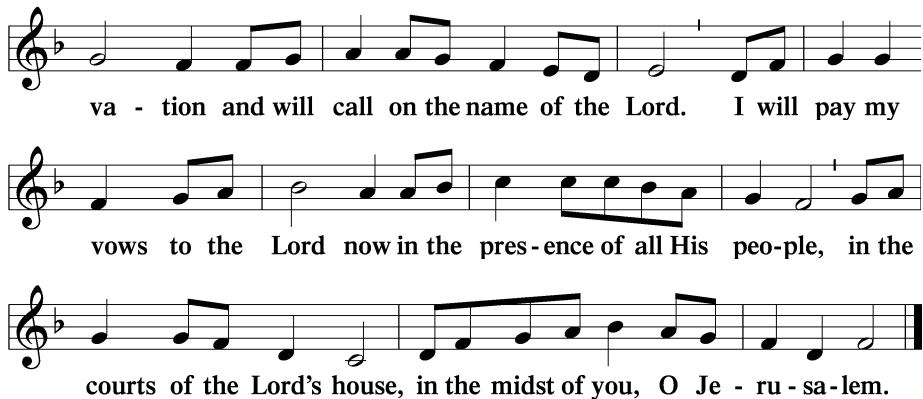
*Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and neighbor,
love for plea and gift and sign.*

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-

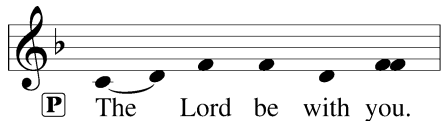


va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface

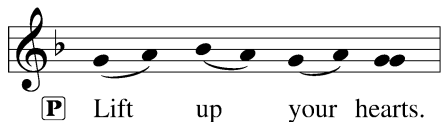
LSB 160



P The Lord be with you.



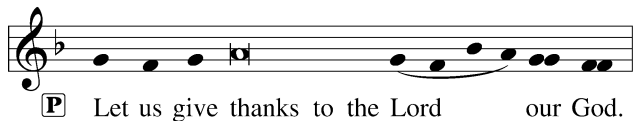
C And al - so with you.




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.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161

setting by Jonathan Kohrs

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is

shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

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.**

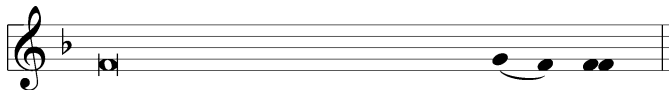
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Pax Domini

LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

setting by Jonathan Kohrs



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Visitors from sister congregations of the LCMS are invited to commune.

Hymn

*From Heaven Above to Earth I Come
LSB 358*

*The remaining stanzas declare the response of the shepherds
and the meaning of the Savior's birth for all the world.*

6 How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the
7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what
8 Wel - come to earth, O no - ble Guest, Through whom the
9 Ah, Lord, though You cre - at - ed all, How weak You

shep - herds let us go To see what God for
in the man - ger lies. Who is this child, so
sin - ful world is blest! You came to share my
are, so poor and small, That You should choose to

us has done In send - ing us His own dear Son.
young and fair? It is the Christ Child ly - ing there.
mis - er - y That You might share Your joy with me.
lay Your head Where low - ly cat - tle late - ly fed!

10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
And set with gold and jewels rare,
It would be far too poor and small
A cradle for the Lord of all.

12 And so it pleases You to see
This simple truth revealed to me:
That worldly honor, wealth, and might
Are weak and worthless in Your sight.

11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
You have but hay and straw so rough
On which as King, so rich and great,
To be enthroned in royal state.

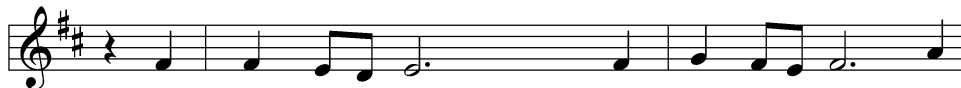
13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.

14 My heart for very joy must leap;
My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:

15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

Hymn

O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is
LSB 372



1 O Je - sus Christ,	Thy man - ger is	My
2 He whom the sea	And wind o - bey	Doth
3 Thy light and grace	Our guilt ef - face,	Thy
4 Thou Chris - tian heart,	Who - e'er thou art,	Be



par - a - dise at which my soul re - clin - eth.
come to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.
heav'n - ly rich - es all our loss re - triev - ing.
of good cheer and let no sor - row move thee!



For there, O Lord,	Doth lie the Word	Made
Thou, God's own Son,	With us art one,	Dost
Im - man - u - el,	Thy birth doth quell	The
For God's own Child,	In mer - cy mild,	Joins



flesh for us; here - in Thy grace forth shin - eth.
join us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
pow'r of hell and Sa - tan's bold de - ceiv - ing.
thee to Him; how great - ly God must love thee!

5 Remember thou
What glory now
The Lord prepared thee for all earthly
sadness.
The angel host
Can never boast
Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.

6 The world may hold
Her wealth and gold;
But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true
treasure.
To Him hold fast
Until at last
A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

Hymn

Away in a Manger
LSB 365 & 364



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.

Interlude



3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Stand

Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

setting by Jonathan Kohrs



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

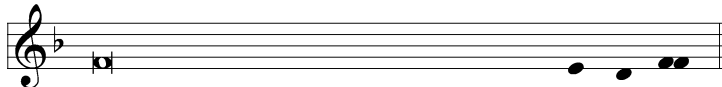
A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



C A - men.

Recessional Hymn

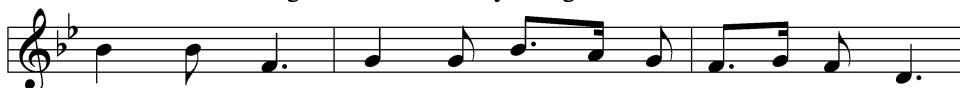
Silent Night

LSB 363

setting by Robert Powell



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.

Postlude

Silent Night

setting by Robert Hobby

✠ **Servants in the Lord's House** ✠
Presiding Minister – Rev. Randy Asburry
Assisting Minister – Rev. Dr. Thomas Egger
Organist – Mr. Matthew Janssen
Choir – Schola Cantorum

Instrumentalists
Kim Gindler & Twinda Murry, violin
John Meurer, viola
Lars Gindler, cello
Luke Reske, piano

Christmas-Epiphany 2023-24

Monday December 25: Christmas Day
9:30 a.m. – Festal Divine Service

Sunday December 31: First Sunday after Christmas
9:00 a.m. – Divine Service

Sunday December 31: New Year's Eve
4:00 p.m. – Divine Service

Saturday January 6: Epiphany of Our Lord
7:00 p.m. Festal Divine Service



New Christmas Banners and Their Meaning: Jesus is the *Rose of Sharon* (Song of Solomon 2:1) which is the same Hebrew word used in Isaiah 35:1, “The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.” In this passage the Lord prepares salvation for His exiled people, reminding us of how He has prepared eternal salvation for all people through *Christ's Incarnation* (Chi Rho, XP) as a baby in a manger. The five petals of the rose also remind us of the five wounds on Christ's hands, feet, and side during His crucifixion.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Christmas poinsettias have been placed
to the praise and glory of God for the
celebration of our Lord's Incarnation and Birth:



In loving memory of dear husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Noel Paul, by Ruth Paul and family;

In loving memory of dear parents and grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. William Eckel and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Paul, by Ruth Paul and family;

In memory of John W. Bishop and William Yancey by Joyce Yancey;

In memory of his wife, Laura, by Bob Moffatt;

In loving memory of family by Bob Moffatt;

In loving memory of Kantor's parents, Carl and Margaret Janssen, by Keri and Matt Janssen;

In loving memory of our dear parents, David Welti, Edwin Scholz, and George and Mary Shoemaker, by Joel and Kay Shoemaker;

In thanksgiving for all God's gifts by Jeanne Weber;

In honor of our Lord's birth by Jim and Diana Frost;

In memory of loved ones by Sandra Swenson;

In thanksgiving to God for all His blessings by Bill and Marlane Truebe;

In loving memory of John and Nelda Bergmann and Larry Asburry by Pastor and Rachel Asburry;

In loving memory of dear husband, father, and grandfather, Olin Spyers, by the Spyers family;

In loving memory of parents and loved ones by Carol Spyers.

Thank you to all those who participated in decorating the sanctuary for the Christmas season.