



And the  
Word  
became flesh  
and dwelt  
among us.

J o h n 1 : 1 4

# *Christmas Day Worship Service*

December 25, 2018

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

“O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL”

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!*

*REFRAIN:*

*O come, let us adore Him! O come, let us adore Him!  
O come, let us adore Him Christ, the Lord!*

*Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! REFRAIN:*

## THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory.

C: Oh, come, let us adore Him.

## HYMN

### “O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL”

*Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, glory in the highest!*

*REFRAIN:*

*O come, let us adore Him! O come, let us adore Him!  
O come, let us adore Him Christ, the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n:  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! REFRAIN*

## THE CONFESSION

- P: Jesus said, “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
- C: **Jesus said, “God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.”**
- P: “Whoever does not believe in Jesus stands condemned because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.
- C: **Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.”**  
[John 3:16-21]
- P: “This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.
- C: **But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.**
- P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C: **If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and He will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”** [1 John 1:5-9]

*~ A moment of Silence for reflection  
and self-examination ~*

- P: Let us then confess our sins to God Who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have hidden from the light and embraced the darkness. We have broken fellowship with You and with one another. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal condemnation. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P: 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 the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray,
- C: **Heavenly Father, as we celebrate the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Savior, may live faithfully as His brothers and sisters until He comes again in greater glory. Amen.**

HYMN

“OF THE FATHER’S LOVE BEGOTTEN”

LSB 384 Vs. 1&3

## THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings, who publishes peace, who brings good tidings of good, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” Hark, your watchmen lift up their voice, together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**THE EPISTLE LESSON: HEBREWS 1:1-8**

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs. For to what angel did God ever say, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the first-born into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "Who makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever, the righteous scepter is the scepter of thy kingdom.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

"WHY A BABY, WHY A CHILD"

JULIA WENNDT

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 1:1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

## HYMN

### “GENTLE MARY LAID HER CHILD”

*Gentle Mary laid her child, Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay Undeclared, To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race, Who have found His favor.*

*Angels sang about His birth, Wise men sought and found Him;  
Heaven’s star shone brightly forth, Glory all around Him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.*

*Gentle Mary laid her child, Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undeclared, But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!*

## THE SERMON

### THE CREED

#### LUTHER’S EXPLANATION TO THE SECOND ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES’ CREED

- P:** We believe, teach, and confess that the Scripture is true which states, “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved” [Romans 10:9-10] What does this mean?
- C:** **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, That I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, Even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

## THE OFFERING

### “MARY DID YOU KNOW”

JULIA WENNDT

## HYMN

“FROM HEAVEN ABOVE TO EARTH I COME”

*From heav'n above to earth I come  
To bear good news to ev'ry home  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
Where-of I now will say and sing:*

*To you this day is born a child  
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
This little child of lowly birth  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.*

*This is the Christ, our God and Lord,  
Who in all need shall aid afford;  
He will Himself your Savior be  
From all your sin to set you free.*

*Welcome to earth, Thou noble Guest,  
Through whom this sinful world is blest!  
Thou com'st to share my misery;  
What thanks shall I return to Thee?*

*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!*

## THE PRAYERS

### THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: Let us pray, Heavenly Father,

C: **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—ourselves, our time, our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who was born to make of Himself an offering for our sins, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up 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 indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh You have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of Your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

## HYMN

### *“A Great and Mighty Wonder”*

*A Great and Mighty Wonder, A full and holy cure  
The virgin bears the Infant. With virgin honor pure!  
Repeat the hymn again: “To God on high be glory.  
And peace on earth to men!”*

*The Word becomes incarnate. And yet remains on high.  
And cherubim sing anthems. To shepherds from the sky.  
Repeat the hymn again: “To God on high be glory.  
And peace on earth to men!”*

*Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored.  
The Infant born in Beth’em, The Savior and the Lord  
Repeat the hymn again: “To God on high be glory.  
And peace on earth to men!”*

P: On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to the disciples saying: “Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

For as often as we drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death, until He comes.

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

P: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of His birth, life, death and resurrection, we await His coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Almighty God, send now, we pray, Your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of His Church, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of Your glory and receive our inheritance with all Your saints in light.

C: **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Heavenly Father, hear us as we pray as Jesus taught us to pray:

All: **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**

## DISTRIBUTION AND HYMNS

### "INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY"

*Infant holy, Infant lowly,  
For His head a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing,  
Little knowing  
Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging,  
Angels singing,  
Bells are ringing,  
Tidings bringing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child is Lord of all!*

*Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping  
Vigil till the morning new  
Saw the glory,  
Heard the story,  
Tidings of a Gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing,  
Free from sorrow,  
Praises voicing,  
Greet the morrow:  
Christ the child was born for you!  
Christ the child was born for you!*

### "HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING"

*Hark the herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;*

*With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail th' incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Immanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild he lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die;  
Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

- P: 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.
- C: **Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child, make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled, within my heart, that it may be a quiet chamber kept for Thee. Amen.**

## HYMN

"NOW SING WE NOW REJOICE"

*Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth, Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth, The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!*

*Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to thee.  
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;  
Through Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,  
Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!*

*Now through His Son doth shine, The Father's grace divine.  
Death was reigning o'er us, Through sin and vanity  
Till He opened for us, A bright eternity.  
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!*

*Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?  
Where the angels singing, With all His saints unite,  
Sweetest praises bringing, In heav'nly joy and light,  
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!*

## THE BENEDICTION

- P: When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." [John 8:12]
- C: **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.** [Psalm 119:105]
- P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you light and peace.
- C: **Glory be to the Father and to the ☩ Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

## HYMN

"JOY TO THE WORLD"

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy. A-men.*

## POSTLUDE

"CHRISTMAS ANGELS"

CHRISTOPHER WENNDT

Welcome to King of Kings Lutheran Church.  
We thank you for joining us this morning.

Christmas is a time of remembrances – surely the most precious of memories. We all have images to treasure: the smell of a crackling fire...the warm glow of being with loved ones...the wonder of fresh snow with Christmas lights shining through in a myriad of colors...the shared joy of Christmas worship...and songs – all the wonderful hymns and carols of Christmas! Best of all is the remembrance of one special birthday!  
Christmas is a celebration for all time because God loved us enough to send His Son!

We Wish You a Merry Christmas  
and a Blessed New Year!



Would you like to keep up with activities or find out more about what we believe, teach, and confess?

Connect with us online!

[WWW.King-of-Kings.org](http://WWW.King-of-Kings.org)

