WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH welcomes you as you join with us in worship this evening. May the Holy Spirit bless you with the message you hear from God's Word, the prayers, the hymns, and the fellowship we share with you. Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. If you need to step out for a moment with your child, a Family Room is located right outside the Sanctuary doors.
- Changing Tables are located in the Restrooms.
- Please fill out an attendance sheet in the pad on the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We ask guests and members to fill them out each week. Guests: We promise we will not bombard you with emails or calls, but this information is helpful for staying in touch.
- Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

HOLY COMMUNION: We are very glad that you have joined us today for this worship service as we hear the Word of God and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This church is in fellowship with other congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, we believe and practice the biblical teaching that we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament (Matthew 26, Mark 14 and Luke 22). If you have a different understanding of Communion or are still learning about this biblical teaching, we love you enough to ask you not to receive Holy Communion this day (1 Corinthians 11). However, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing at the time of Communion. If later you have questions about this or any other teachings, the pastor would be very pleased to talk with you.

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Chris Cheatham – Vice President		Mike Newman – Head Trustee
Lisa Schoppa – Secretary		Lee Wernli - Youth
LeAnn Way – Treasurer		Andrea Mascardo - Christian Growth
Mark Lamprecht – Financial Secretary		Joyce Knighten - Family Life
Butch Nye - Presiding Elder	Contact information available upon request.	Clay & Kate Hegar - Stewardship

Be Born In Us Today - Bringing Light

A Service for Christmas Eve 2022

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Pre-Service Music

Pealing of the Bells

Prelude

Call to Worship Video "We Have Come to Worship Him"

twelve:thirty media

Welcome/Announcements

Let Us Call Upon Our God

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

C Amen.

Opening Hymn: "Joy to the World"

LSB 387

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.

No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- P On this holy night, we light the Christ candle on the Advent wreath as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the world. The apostle John writes, "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" (John 1:4-5).
- Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Fill our lives with your life and light.
- P Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).
- Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Help us by your Spirit to reflect your light and love in our lives.

Confession and Forgiveness

- P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.
- Almighty God, we live in the light of our Savior, but we are still tempted by the darkness of sin. We follow our selfish desires. We turn from your Word to listen to the temptations of the world. We fail to love others as we should because we do not let Jesus' light shine through our lives. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sins and turn our hearts and minds to the light of Jesus.
- P God has had mercy on us. By his death and resurrection, Jesus, the Light of the world, has overcome the darkness of sin, death and Satan. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen. Lord, lead us to live as children of light!

Hymn: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

LSB 358

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

"To you this night 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 Most High, Who hears your sad and bitter cry; He will himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free."

Prayer of the Day

- P Almighty God, at creation you spoke your Word and light shattered the darkness. On this holy night, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, the Word made flesh. In him, the light once again broke into the world made dark by sin. By his death and resurrection, Jesus brought to us life and light. Lead us, tonight and always, to walk by faith as children of light. We pray that Jesus' love will shine in our words and actions so that through our witness, others will come to know and worship Jesus as Lord. On this night when we celebrate his birth, hear our prayers and accept our praise in Jesus' name.
- C Amen.

Children's Message

Hymn: "What Child Is This"

LSB 370

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Text: William C. Dix. 1837-98 Text: Public domain

God Speaks to Us Through His Prophet ...

Genesis 15:1-6

L After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" and Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir." And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Choir: "Born This Night" Douglas Wagner

God Speaks to Us Through His Apostle ...

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

L Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading ... Luke 2:1-7

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 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.

Hymn: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

LSB 361

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.

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.

Gospel Reading ... Luke 2:8-14

P 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 great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of 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!"

Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

LSB 368

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherd, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gospel Reading ...

Luke 2:15-20

P 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.

Sermon Hymn: "Away in a Manger"

LSB 365

Away in a manger, No crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus, Laid down His sweet head The stars in the bright sky, Looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus, Asleep on the hay. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay.
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in they tender care
And take us to heaven to live with thee there.

God Speaks to Us Through Pastor Bailes: "Born to Bring Light"

Luke 2:8-11

Hymn of Response: "Once in Royal David's City"

LSB 376

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall; With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

We Worship God with Our Offerings

(Our offerings give us an opportunity to give thanks to God for the many ways He has blessed us. Members and regular attendees support God's mission and ministry as He works through this congregation. Guests are welcome to give an offering, but are not expected to do so. Psalm 54:6; 116:12-14, 17)

Offering Video "O Holy Night"

WorshipTeam.tv

Prayers

- P Lord and Savior, through your birth in Bethlehem, through your life, death and resurrection, you brought the light of hope to the world. Comfort those who are suffering through illness or grief. According to your will, bring them healing and hope through the promises of your Word. Jesus, Light of the world,
- Shine in us and through us. Teach us according to the wisdom of your Word and lead us by the Holy Spirit to reflect the light of your forgiveness and love.
- P Lord and Savior, Word made flesh, you are the Light no darkness can overcome. By your death and resurrection, you overcame the darkness of sin, death and the devil. You have brought us life and light, now and for all eternity. Jesus, Light of the world,
- Shine in us and through us. Help us to be bold witnesses for you, so that others will come to trust in you for salvation and live in the light of your love.

- Lord and Savior, through Baptism we were created anew as children of light, delivered from the domain of darkness and brought into your kingdom. Jesus, Light of the world,
- C Shine in us and through us. Lead us to walk in love and to serve others in your name.
- P Lord and Savior, Light of the world, hear our prayers and accept our praise.
- C Amen.

+ Our Lord Comes to Us in His Body and His Blood +

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us give thanks to our Savior who has been born in us today.
- We praise You, Jesus, for bringing light into our dark world.

Hymn "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

[LSB 383:1-2] tune of LSB 359

1 A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure:
The virgin bears the infant
With virgin honor pure! Refrain

ref Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"

2 The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high, And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky. Refrain

Text: Public domain

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."

Lord's Prayer

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.

Peace of the Lord

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

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

LSB 379, 1-3

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

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

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

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: Refrain

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80, alt.; John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786 Text: Public domain

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

LSB 359, 1, 2, 4

- Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
 From tender stem hath sprung!
 Of Jesse's lineage coming
 As prophets long have sung,
 It came, a flow'ret bright,
 Amid the cold of winter,
 When half-spent was the night.
- 2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The rose I have in mind; With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, She bore to us a Savior, When half-spent was the night.
- 4 O Savior, child of Mary,
 Who felt our human woe;
 O Savior, King of glory,
 Who dost our weakness know:
 Bring us at length we pray
 To the bright courts of heaven,
 And to the endless day.

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, From heav'n's all-gracious king." The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled, And still their heav'nly music floats O'er all the weary world. Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov'ring wing, And ever o'er its babel sounds The blessèd angels sing.
 - 3 All you, beneath your heavy load,
 By care and guilt bent low,
 Who toil along a dreary way
 With painful steps and slow:
 Look up, for golden is the hour,
 Come swiftly on the wing,
 The Prince was born to bring you peace;
 Of Him the angels sing.
 - For lo, the days have come to pass
 By prophets seen of old,
 When down into the circling years
 Came Christ as was foretold.
 His word of peace shall to the earth
 God's ancient promise bring,
 And all who take this gift will hear
 The song the angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-76, alt. Text: Public domain

Benediction

- P "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."
- P 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!" (Luke 2:11-14).
- P "Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23).
- C Amen.

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Special Thanks

Carol Bartel
Choir Director

Living Savior Choir Members

Jackson Giddens Trumpeter

All the others who have worked behind the scenes to make this service possible.

Have a blessed Christmas!