

# **Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church**

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**December 24, 2023**

Christmas Eve



**2606 Chimney Rock Road—Hendersonville, NC 28792**

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**Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH**

**9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday**

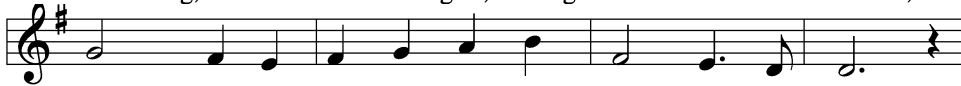
*Stand and face the processional cross as it enters.*

## Processional Hymn

## 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful



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,



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!



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:

*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!

## Invocation and Opening Sentences

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** For to us a child is born,

**C** to us a son is given;

**P** and the government shall be upon His shoulder,

**C** and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

**P** Mighty God, Everlasting Father,

**C** Prince of Peace.

## Confession and Absolution

**P** Everlasting Father, we acknowledge our unworthiness to stand in Your presence as we celebrate the arrival of Your Son to save us. Confessing our sins of thought, word, and deed, we pray:

**C** Father, forgive us.

**P** The Virgin Mary accepted Your call to be the mother of Jesus. Forgive us for the ways we ignore the call of Your Holy Word and live in disobedience to Your perfect will. We pray:

**C** Father, forgive us.

**P** Your Son, our Savior, was humbly born and laid in the Bethlehem manger. Forgive our greed, pride, and rejection of Your commands. We pray:

**C** Father, forgive us.

**P** The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem and see what the Lord had made known to them. Forgive our self-interest and unwillingness to leave everything to follow You. We pray:

**C** Father, forgive us.

**P** The Magi followed the star as it led them to Jesus, the true King of all people. Forgive us for not seeking You with all our hearts. We pray:

**C** Father, forgive us.

**P** Everlasting Father, knowing that You hear and answer us for sake of Jesus Christ, we bring the silent prayers of our hearts before Your throne of grace.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Our Wonderful Counselor and Mighty God sends forth His perfect gift into our sinful world. On this most sacred day, we behold the glory of Jesus Christ and receive the redemption He earned for us by His death and resurrection. By faith in His promises, we become children of our Everlasting Father and heirs of His eternal kingdom.

As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## Introit

*Psalm 93:1–2, 5; antiphon: Isaiah 9:2a, 6a, c Tone G*



The people who walked in darkness have seen a | great light.\*

To us a | child is born.

**His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,\*  
Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.**

The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty;\*

the LORD is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.

**Yes, the world is es- | tablished;\***

it shall nev- | er be moved.

Your throne is established | from of old;\*

you are from ever- | lasting.

**Your decrees are very | trustworthy;\***

**holiness befits your house, O LORD, for- | evermore.**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a | great light.\*  
To us a | child is born.

His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,\*  
Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

## Kyrie

LSB 152

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** 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 mercy.  
**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C** Amen.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also 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.  
**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Hymn

## 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



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!"

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 9:2–7*

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the ninth chapter.

<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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Titus 2:11–14*

**P** The Epistle is from Titus, the second chapter.

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who 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.

## Stand

### Psalm and Verse

*Psalms 98:1–4; Matthew 1:21*

**P** Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

**C** His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

**P** The Lord has made known His salvation;

**C** He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**P** He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**C** All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**P** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

**C** break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**P** Alleluia. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus,

**C** for He will save His people from their sins. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 1:1–18*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out,

“This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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  $\text{✠}$  everlasting. Amen.

## Sit Hymn 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious  
2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring  
3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -  
light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In  
na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their  
Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All  
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The  
shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.  
har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.  
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

5 His righteous government and pow'r  
Shall over all extend;  
On judgment and on justice based,  
His reign shall have no end,  
His reign shall have no end.

△ 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,  
And make us Thine alone,  
Who with the Father ever art  
And Holy Spirit, one,  
And Holy Spirit, one.

# THE GOOD NEWS OF A GREAT JOY

## Presented By the Children

Sit

### The Promise of Peace

- I In the beginning, God created a perfect world filled with sparkling stars, majestic mountains, verdant valleys, and amazing animals. There was no sickness, no pain, and no death. The people God had made lived at peace with the animals, with each other, and with God. Then one day, the people were tempted to doubt God's Word and to question the gifts He had already given them. They disobeyed God and took what God had commanded them not to take, bringing sin into the world.
- II When sin entered the perfect world God had made, perfect peace was lost. The man and woman hid from God and blamed each other and God for what they had done. Peace was replaced by shame and hurt and sickness and death. But God did not give up on the people He had made! He promised to send a Savior to bring back the peace that had been lost.
- III We read about God's first promise of a Savior in Genesis 3:15, when He spoke judgment on the serpent who had deceived Adam and Eve: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." The Savior would take upon Himself the punishment that man deserved. He would defeat sin, death, and Satan and restore the relationship between God and man.
- IV Hundreds of years passed while God's people waited, sometimes wondering if God had forgotten the promise He had made in the Garden of Eden. But God had not forgotten. He sent prophets such as Isaiah to remind the people that He would one day fulfill His promise to restore peace. Isaiah prophesied about the promised Savior, saying, "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" (Isaiah 9:6).

Choir

**"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

### Peace Is Proclaimed

- V Malachi, the last prophet recorded in the Old Testament, foretold that God would send a messenger to prepare the way of the promised Savior. Four hundred years later, when John the Baptist was born, his father, Zechariah, proclaimed these words about John, who was the messenger: "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways, to give knowledge of salvation to His people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Luke 1:76-79).



## Hymn

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *sts. 1, 4*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from  
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y  
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

- VI The promised Prince of Peace was about to arrive! God sent an angel to Mary with the proclamation that she would be the mother of the Savior. 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).
- VII God also sent an angel to proclaim this good news to Joseph. Matthew 1:20–23 tells us, “An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel’ (which means, God with us).”

# Hymn

## 384 Of the Father's Love Begotten *sts. 1, 3*

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -  
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with  
 gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
 He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that  
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -  
 have been, And that fu - ture years shall see  
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

## The Prince of Peace

VIII The birth of Jesus Christ from Luke chapter 2: "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" (Luke 2:1–7).

IX "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!'" (Luke 2:8–14).

- X “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” (Luke 2:15–20).
- XI The baby born in Bethlehem was the promised Prince of Peace, the Son of God, Jesus Christ, our Savior! God the Father sent His only Son into this world to live a perfect life in our place, die on the cross for our sins, and rise again to life, giving us the sure hope of eternal life. All who believe in Him shall have peace with God once more. Romans 5:1 declares, “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

### Hymn

364 **Away in a Manger** *sts. 1, 3*

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'Away in a Manger'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and gentle, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words split across lines. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics for the first staff are: '1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay'. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: 'The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head. Close by me for - ev - er and love His me, I pray.' The third staff continues with: 'The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,'. The fourth staff concludes the hymn with: 'The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay. And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.'

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay  
The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.  
Close by me for - ev - er and love His me, I pray.  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,  
The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

### Peace for All People

- XII Jesus Christ came for all people. God placed a star in the heavens to guide the Wise Men from the East to the Savior of the world. We read from Matthew chapter 2: “Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him’” (Matthew 2:1–2).
- XIII When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd My people Israel’” (Matthew 2:3–6).

XIV Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was (Matthew 2:7-9).

XV When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. They offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way (Matthew 2:10-12).

XVI The shepherds couldn't keep the good news of the Savior to themselves. They returned glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard. The Wise Men also likely shared the story of the star that led them to the Savior-King. How beautiful it is when we share the Good News of the Savior, who brings peace to the world. Isaiah 52:7 tells us, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'"

### Hymn

### 370 What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

*Stand*

- P** Our eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people;
- C** **A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** Let us pray.
- C** **Heavenly Father, we thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, to take away our sins and bring peace to our fallen world. Help us to share Your message of love and forgiveness with others so that they may also find peace in You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

- P** Wonderful Counselor, You govern all things with wisdom, righteousness, and truth. Grant to all mankind the joy of Your presence, that we may see You at work in our midst. Guide all nations to behold Your glory in the face of Jesus. Wherever the good news of great joy is announced, grant that lives be changed forever by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord Jesus, bring joy to our world!**
- P** Mighty God, You reign over all things and yet, in Christ, You reach down to save us by placing the most brilliant Light and most beautiful diamond in the manger of Bethlehem. Give us the boldness to declare Your mighty deeds and reflect the brightness of Your truth throughout the world. Inspire us to fulfill our earthly callings so that, through our worship and witness, all may know Your saving love. Let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord Jesus, bring joy to our hearts and minds!**
- P** Everlasting Father, You embrace us and make us Your children through faith in Your only-begotten Son. Bless all those who, in any form of illness of mind and body, need Your tender care. Heal the sick, bind up the brokenhearted, and grant Your perfect peace to all who rest in You. We pray for those with special needs, [especially . . .], that they may rejoice in the message of Christ coming into this world for them. Let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord Jesus, bring joy to our bodies and souls!**
- P** Prince of Peace, You give to us what the world can never give. Drive out all fears and doubts. Deliver us from all enemies, seen and unseen. Grant us solace in Him whose blood has set us free that we may be Your people forever. Open our ears to the message of the angels: "Fear not . . . for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord Jesus, bring joy to our world!**
- P** Gracious God, we entrust all of these prayers into Your good and gracious hands, for the sake of Him whose birth we celebrate: Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

Offering

“O Holy Night”  
“Away in a Manger” by Donald Busarow

Zoe Christensen

Robert Hamrick

## Litany of Light

*Individual candles are lit.*

### Verses

*1 John 1:5, 7*

- P** This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you,  
**C** **that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.**  
**P** If we walk in the light, as He is in the light,  
**C** **we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

### 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem



- 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!

### Verses

*John 8:12; Matthew 5:16*

- P** Jesus says, “I am the light of the world.  
**C** **Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**  
**P** “In the same way, let your light shine before others,  
**C** **so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”**

# Hymn

## 363 Silent Night, Holy Night sts. 1-3, 1g



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,  
 1 *Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*

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  
*ein - sam wacht Nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*

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  
*Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, Schlaf in himm - li - scher*

peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.  
*Ruh, Schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.*

### Closing Sentences

Isaiah 9:6

- P** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
- C** and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
- P** and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
- C** Mighty God,
- P** Everlasting Father,
- C** Prince of Peace.

*Individual candles are extinguished.*

### Benediction

- 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** Amen.

*Stand*

## Closing Hymn

## 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.  
flow, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Postlude

Joy to the World

Hugo Gehrke

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