

*JESSE TREE: Jesus' Family Tree:  
Children's Christmas Service  
December 20, 2020  
10:00 am*



# **JESSE TREE: Jesus' Family Tree: Children's Christmas Service**

**December 20, 10 am**

*This worship service follows the tradition of the Jesse Tree. The image of the "stem of Jesse" in Isaiah 11:1 points us to Christ's human origins and Family Tree, which traces the history of God's plan of salvation from Adam and Eve to the reign of Jesus. Pictures or symbols of the various ancestors will be shown. The service ends with the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child.*

## **PRESERVICE MUSIC**

Piano Solo – Amelia Husing (video)

Song – Husing children (video)

Piano Solo – Naomi Kadlec

Song – Ross children (video)

## **HYMN: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

**LSB 357: 1, 4–5**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

*Refrain:*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!  
O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

## **INVOCATION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**NARRATOR:** Jesus' birth was the long-awaited fulfillment of a promise given to a very special family. Born the son of a woman, yet born the Son of God, He came to be the Savior of all mankind. The Family Tree of Jesus is vast and as ancient as time itself. A Family whose members were all handpicked by God Himself. Today we remember just a few of these faithful Children of God.

## **OPENING SENTENCES**

Pastor: The Jesse Tree, Christ's fam'ly tree,

**People: Points us the way to Jesus.**

Pastor: From Eden down to Calvary,

**People: Our loving Savior frees us.**

Pastor The promise is for you and me

**People: And points the way to Jesus.**

**NARRATOR:** One of the names on Jesus’ Family Tree is Jesse, a farmer who lived in Bethlehem. His son, the great King David, would be one of the most famous on the Family Tree. His family tree began with God’s first promise of a Savior to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. It ended with the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Through the years the church has called this Family Tree the Jesse Tree. Today we celebrate God’s faithfulness to His promise of sending His Son to be our Savior.

**READING:** There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from His roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. *Isaiah 11:1–2*

**HYMN: What Hope! An Eden Prophesied      LSB 342:1–2**

What hope! An Eden prophesied  
Where tame live with the wild;  
The lamb and lion side by side,  
Led by a little child!  
  
A shoot will sprout from Jesse’s stem,  
A branch from David’s line,  
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:  
The fruit of God’s design.

**Adam & Eve**      Symbol: Apple

**READING:** The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. 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.” *Genesis 3:1–6, 14–15*

**SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*When Eve and Adam took that bite,  
God promised to make all things right.*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

**Noah**      Symbol: Rainbow

**READING:** Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “Behold, I establish My covenant with you and your offspring after you...that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. *Genesis 9:8, 11-13*

**SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*God cleansed the world from evil sin;  
Another promise would begin.*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

**Abraham**      Symbol: Tent

**READING:** Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” *Genesis 12:1–3*

**SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God's promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*God promised Abraham a son;  
His line would bring the Chosen One.*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

**Isaac**      Symbol: Ram

**READING:** And Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. *Genesis 22:6–8*

**READING:** Knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. *1 Peter 1:18-19*

**SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God's promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*Through Abr'am's line came sacrifice;  
But it was God who paid the price!*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

**Jacob**      Symbol: Ladder

**READING:** Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. *Genesis 28:10–14*

**SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God's promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*When Jacob's planning fell apart,  
God granted him a brand-new start.*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

**David**      Symbol: Crown

**READING:** Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth... And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’” *2 Samuel:8-9, 16*

**SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*Though Jesse’s son was frail and small,  
His offspring would be King of all!*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

**Solomon**      Symbol: Temple

**READING:** And Solomon sent word to Hiram, “You know that David my father could not build a house for the name of the LORD his God because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him, until the LORD put them under the soles of his feet. But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side. There is neither adversary nor misfortune. And so I intend to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD said to David my father, ‘Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, shall build the house for My name.’” *1 Kings 5:2–5*

**SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*The temple of King Solomon  
Prepared God’s people for His Son.*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

**HYMN: What Child Is This**

**LSB 370:1**

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!

**John the Baptist**      Symbol: Baptismal shell

**READING:** In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.’” Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild

honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. *Matthew 3:1–6*

### **SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*And God gave John the pow’r to say:  
“The Lord is near; prepare the way!”*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

### **Jesus is Conceived**      Symbol: Mary

**READING:** In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And 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 1:26–33*

### **SONG: O Jesse Tree**

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.  
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!  
*The virgin Mary, servant blessed,  
Would raise a Son unlike the rest.*  
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

### **HYMN: O Little Town of Bethlehem**

**LSB 361:1–2**

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!

### **Jesus is Born**      Symbol: Manger

**READING:** 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 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.

**SONG: Away in a Manger** *All children*

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
2. 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.
3. 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 Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

**The Angels**      Symbol: Angel

**READING:** 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 good will toward men!” *Luke 2:1-14*

**HYMN: Angels We Have Heard on High**

**LSB 368:1,3**

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.

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.

**READING:** 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.

## HYMN: Silent Night

LSB 363:1

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.

**READING:** 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*

## HYMN: Go Tell It on the Mountain

LSB 388:1-2

Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere,  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. **REFRAIN**
2. The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo, above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior's birth. **REFRAIN**

## CLOSING SENTENCES

Leader: The Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—

**People: Points us the way to Jesus.**

Leader: From Eden down to Calvary,

**People: Our loving Savior frees us.**

Leader: The promise is for you and me

**People: And points the way to Jesus.**

## SONG: O Jesse Tree

O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

God's promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!

*The promise of the Jesse Tree:*

*Our Savior came for you and me!*

O Jesse Tree—Christ's fam'ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

## HOMILY

### PRAYER

Pastor: We pray:

**All:** Father in heaven, You sent Your Son—the Son of Adam, of Jesse, of David. You promised a Messiah through a special family tree. Thank You for making us all sons and daughters in Your family through our Savior, Jesus Christ. In His name we pray. Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER



## **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Our promised Savior is born, and we are made children of God! May the peace of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you today and every day. Amen.

## **HYMN: Joy to the World**

***LSB 387:1,4***

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.

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,

And wonders, wonders of His love.

Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House  
3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968  
1-800-325-3040 • [cph.org](http://cph.org)

***Thank you, students, teachers, and helpers, for sharing your gifts and faith with us! Thank you, parents, for your support and help. To God be the Glory!***

***Please place offerings in the offering box in the narthex.***

**Narrators:** RJ Behrens, CJ Forss, Alex Gensch

**Readers:** Hannah Forss, Jayne Halsey, Kayden Halsey, Amelia Husing, Hannah Kadlec, Jessica Kadlec, Naomi Kadlec, Adalynn Kufahl, Graysen Lea, Zeke Ross, Casey Stenschke, Izzy Stenschke

**Joseph & Mary:** CJ Forss, Adalynn Kufahl

**Angels:** Ellie Collins, Abbie Forss, Jayne Halsey, Hadley Hoelzel, Hannah Kadlec, Naomi Kadlec, Alayna Kufahl, Izzy Stenschke

**Shepherds:** Hannah Forss, Kayden Halsey, Jessica Kadlec, Tobias Kadlec, Graysen Lea, Casey Stenschke

**Sheep:** Christian Behrens, Ezra Kadlec, Logan Lorenz, Sawyer Lorenz

**Chimes:** Hannah Forss, Jessica Kadlec, Naomi Kadlec, Addy Kufahl, Izzy Stenschke

**Pastor:** Rev. Peter Kufahl

**Director of Music & Children's Ministry/Accompanist:** Marlene Rieck

**Choral Director:** Jessie Westfall

**Sunday School Teachers:** Karen Behrens, Rick Behrens, Kim Eggleston, Maleea Eggleston, Jaclyn Halsey, Jen Kasmarek, Amy Kufahl, Laura Lorenz, Lynn Parker, Emily Rottier-Douangmala, Linda Stenschke

**Sound:** Dan Scafaro

**Media:** Jen Kasmarek

**Props & Set:** Carol Litchfield

The family of Our Savior Lutheran Church would like to invite your family to join ours in celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship  
December 24<sup>th</sup> 3 p.m. 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.**

**Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion  
December 25<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m.**

# Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

**Invocation** In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Introit** (found on front page)

**Catechism Review** (found on front page)

**Meditation:** Portals of Prayer, [www.lhm.org/dailydevotions](http://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions), Other

## *Daily Scripture Readings*

Sunday: Isaiah 40:18-41:10; Revelation 8:1-13  
Monday: Isaiah 42:1-24; Revelation 9:1-12  
Tuesday: Isaiah 43:1-24; Revelation 9:13-10:11  
Wednesday: Isaiah 43:25-44:20; Revelation 11:1-9  
Thursday: Isaiah 44:21-45:13, 20-25; Revelation 12:1-17  
Friday: Isaiah 49:1-18; Matthew 1:1-17  
Saturday: Isaiah 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8; Matthew 1:18-25

## *In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)*

Roger, health issues	Carrie, healing from a stroke
Bill, recovery	Linda, brain cancer
Larry, heart issues	Dennis, hospitalized
Becky, back pain	Julie, pancreatic cancer
Camilla, 7-year-old with brain cancer	Jackie's grandmother
Jack, ongoing health issues	Vonna's mother
Dave, recovery	Lauren's mother
Eunice, Health Issues	Chris, recovering after a fall
Jim, Alzheimer's	Brent, hospital
Al, health issues	Ross, Covid
Anna, recovering	Carole, Covid
Larry, health issues	David, Covid
	Ken, Covid

Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand. For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our land.

**Our Savior Families:** Brad & Tara, Dorothy, Sherri & family, Woody & Ann,  
Timothy & family, Pat

**Hymn of the Week** "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" LSB 336

**Collect** (found on front page)

**Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction**