

Isaiah 52:7-10 (ESV)

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.” The voice of your watchmen—they 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.

Hebrews 1:1-6 (ESV)

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making 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 inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

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 any thing 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 as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right 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, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Christmas Eve Candle Light Service and Christmas Day Service



**St. Andrew Lutheran
West Fargo
December 24 & 25, 2019**

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

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December 24 & 25, 2019 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Day-A

Christmas Eve is the beginning of the celebration of the LORD fulfilling His promises, **JESUS CHRIST, TRUE GOD AND TRUE MAN, OUR BROTHER YET OUR LORD AND SAVIOR.** Our Gospel readings for this coming year are drawn from Matthew, which we will use tonight. Matthew literally starts, "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ..." which points us back to the Greek translation of Genesis 5:1, which starts, "The book of genealogy of..." pointing us back to Genesis 2:4 creation and the creation of man. The root word for genealogy or generation is often translated as "give birth." Its very basic meaning is to bring forth, like a plant from the ground, like Adam was formed from the ground. The Lord God spoke to Him, by His Word, He created faith in the ground of his heart. Our Mid-week Advent services focused on the different types of soil found in Matthew 13. The seed refers to the Word of God and the soil is the heart. As there are different kinds of soil, so hearts are different in receiving God's Word. Where does faith to believe and live out God's Word come from? Romans 10:17 reminds us, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (ESV). We hear God's Word preached from the pulpit and proclaimed in the absolution of our sin. We hear God's Word when Baptism and the Lord's Supper are administered. God speaks and it is. God joins His Word to earthy elements in these Sacraments. God joins Himself to Man. He is Jesus, the Word made flesh. This is what we celebrate at Christmas!

SPECIAL NOTES FOR WORSHIP

YOUR WORSHIP FOLDER contains all four Christmas Services. 3:30pm, 5:30pm, and 8pm are the same. The 10am Christmas Day Service is a special communion service. If you will not be with us for the other services, use this folder for your own devotion time. If you do not plan to keep a copy of this service, please return it to the usher when you leave. The upcoming announcements are found in the back section.

Nativity of our Lord - Christmas Day - C

December 25, 2019

Introit

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.
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.
The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!
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.
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.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual

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.
Sing to the Lord a | new song,*
for he has done | marvelous things!

Verse

Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.

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This Column is for tomorrow

December 25, 2019-10am

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	COME, LORD JESUS to Him Who Brings the Enlightening Word
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3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest!

REFRAIN:

STAND

THE INVOCATION

R1: In the Name of the Father and the Son + and the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN!

PREPARATION FOR THIS NIGHT

THE LORD'S GRACIOUS ACT OF CREATION Genesis 2:4-8

THE PROMISE FOUND IN THE CURSE Genesis 3:13-15

THE CURSE TO RETURN TO THE GROUND Genesis 3:17-19

EXPELLED FROM THE GARDEN AS AN ACT OF MERCY
Genesis 3:22-24

HYMN OF RESPONSE **"Let All Together Praise Our God"**
Tune: LW #44/LSB #389

1. Let all together praise our God Before his glorious throne:
Today He opens heav'n again To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.

2. The Father sends Him from His throne To be an infant small
And lie here poorly manged now In this cold, dismal stall,
In this cold, dismal stall.

4. He undertakes a great exchange Puts on our human frame,
And in return gives us His realm His glory, and His name,
His glory, and His name.

7. Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus we adore
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore;
We praise You ever more.

THE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM Genesis 12:1-3

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Go, Tell it on the Mountain"

Tune: LW #504

REFRAIN:

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

1. While shepherds kept their watching
 O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, through-out the heavens There shone a holy light.

REFRAIN

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
 When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angels chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.

REFRAIN

3. Down in a lonely manger The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.
REFRAIN

THE POSTLUDE

“This is our chief article, and this is our true, genuine, Christian faith, apart from which no other faith exists: that Christ is true God and man. And this faith alone saves. Whoever desires to have a different faith is welcome to have it and see where it will get him. If reason will not believe that it was possible for God to become man, then it may disbelieve it. But we Christians believe it because God’s Word says so; and to faith nothing is impossible. Reason may be offended at it to whatever extent it please. But so it must be: whoever expects to be redeemed and saved from the devil’s power, from sins, and from death must believe that Christ is true God, through whom the world was made, also true man, born of Mary. This faith alone saves—none other, however it may be called.”

—Martin Luther—

VISITORS, if you do not have a church home, you are welcome to consider us. Please let us know by noting your wishes on the Friendship Register, telling a member or the pastor as you leave, so that we may help you and give the information you need.

Merry CHRISTmas!

With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

STAND

THE CANDLELIGHT PRAYERS

P: O Almighty God, You have made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the true light of the World. Grant us to know now the true meaning and mystery of His coming and birth, so we may also have the fullness of His eternal joys in heaven, where He now lives and reigns with You, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN! GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST!

P: Remember us in Your kingdom and help 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!

P: "You are the light of the world....Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."
[Matthew 5:14,16]

THE BLESSING

P: The grace of the new born King, Jesus + Christ, who came for our salvation, and the love of God the Heavenly Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: AMEN! CHRIST IS BORN FOR US, ALLELUIA!

Candles are extinguished and lights brightened. Please place your candles in the box in the narthex as you are ushered out.

THE PROMISE TO DAVID

2 Samuel 7:12-16

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Once in Royal David's City

Tune: LW #58

1. 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.
3. But our eyes in truth should see Him
 Through His own redeeming love,
 For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav'n above,
 As He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

THE SIGN OF JUDGEMENT AGAINST AHAZ

Isaiah 7:10-14

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Joy to the World"

Tune: LW #53/LSB #387

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its 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.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrow 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.
4. 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.

BECOMES THE SIGN OF PROMISE FOR US

Matthew 1:18-23

HYMN OF RESPONSE**"What Child Is This?"**

Tune: LW #61:1-2/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!

2. 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!

HUMANITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S WORD

Matthew 1:24-25

HYMN OF RESPONSE**"I Am So Glad"**

Tune: LW #56:1, 2, 4

1. I am so glad when Christmas comes, The night of Jesus' birth,
When Beth-l'hem's star shone as the sun And angels sang with mirth.

2. The little Child in Bethlehem, The King of heav'nly grace,
Came down from His exalted throne To save our fallen race.

4. I too would sing my Savior's praise, My joy, my crown, my Lord;
For He has made me His own child by Water and the Word.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS - The Preliminaries

St. Luke 2:1-5

HYMN OF RESPONSE**"O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

Tune: LW #60:1-3/LSB #361

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!

SONG OF RESPONSE**"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"**

Tune: LSB #393

1. Infant holy, infant lowly, For His bed 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!

2. 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!

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT AND SONG**THE CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY**

The pastor lights his candle from the altar candle, which symbolizes CHRIST THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

P: 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. Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

[Isaiah 9:2 and 60:1]

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; whoever follows me shall not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

[John 8:12]

The pastor gives light to the ushers at the front of the altar. They, in turn give light to the first worshipers in each row, who will pass it on to the others in that row. DO NOT TILT A LIGHTED CANDLE!!!

THE CANDLELIGHT SONG**"Silent Night"**

Tune: LW #68/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.

2. 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!

3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face

True man, yet very God, From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

THE RESPONSE TO WHAT GOD HAS DONE Matthew 2:7-11

OUR OFFERINGS AND SONGS OF RESPONSE

Our gifts and songs acknowledge with joy the birth of Him who is our Savior. Through them, we signify the giving of ourselves fully and our trust. Through these gifts we and others will continue to hear the joy of Jesus. You will be ushered up the center aisle in two rows. Place your offering in the manger and pick up your candle as you return to your seat. A child may enjoy putting the offering in the cradle. Please return to your seat down the side aisles. We listen & sing as the offerings are brought up:

SONG OF RESPONSE "As with Gladness Men of Old"

Tune: LSB #397

1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy seat.
3. As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.
4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.
5. In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

3:30-DUET "O Holy Night"

3. How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessing 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.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS-Our Lord is Born St. Luke 2:6-7

A HYMN OF RESPONSE "Away in a Manger"

Tune: LSB #364/#365:1, 3

1. 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.
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.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS-The Angel Appears to Shepherds St. Luke 2:8-9

A HYMN OF RESPONSE "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Tune: LW #62:1-3/LSB #366

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 blessed 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, Comes swiftly on the wing,
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of him the angels sing.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS- Lord's Birth is Announced

St. Luke 2:10-12

A HYMN OF RESPONSE "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Tune: LW #50/LSB #367:1-2

1. Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Once you sang creation's story; Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

REFRAIN

**Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.**

2. Shepherds in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light.

REFRAIN

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS-The Praise of the Angels St. Luke 2:13-14

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Hark! The Herald Angels"

Tune: LW #49:1-3/LSB #380

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

3. 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 we no more may die,
LW Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS-The Shepherds Go to See St. Luke 2:15-16

5:30-RESPONSE BY JUBILATE CHOIR: "O Come and See the Baby"
by Sally Albrecht

3:30 & 8pm-A HYMN OF RESPONSE "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

Tune LW #51:1-2

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

REFRAIN:

**Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men!"**

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

REFRAIN:

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS-The Shepherds Share the Gospel

St. Luke 2:17-20

A HYMN OF RESPONSE "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Tune: LW #55:1, 3/LSB #368

1. 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.

3. 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.

FORETELLING & FULFILLMENT OF OTHER COMING TO JESUS

Isaiah 11:10

5:30-RESPONSE BY JUBILATE CHOIR: "Follow the Star"
by Sally K. Albrecht

3:30 & 8pm-HYMN OF RESPONSE "Lo, How a Rose Is Blooming"

Tune: LSB #359

1. 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.

3. This flow'r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness ev'rywhere.