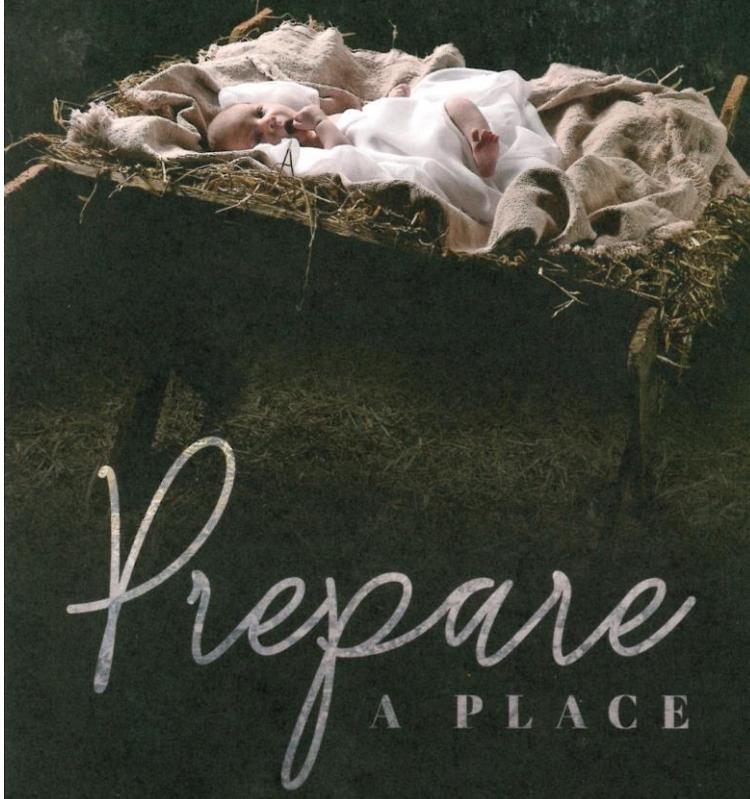


P R E P A R E Y E



Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2020  
4 p.m. & 8 p.m.

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
Brillion, WI

## Welcome

### Theme Verse

**P** Our theme verse for today is, “Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12).

### 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

*LSB 379 vs. 1-3*

1 O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him Born the king of angels:

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

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*

### Invocation and Call to Worship

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** Amen.

**P** Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

**C** To us a child is born.

**P** To us a Son is given.

**C** And the government will be on his shoulders.

**P** And He will be called—

**C** Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**P** For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**C** A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

### 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

*LSB 367 vs. 1-4*

1 Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o’er all the earth;  
Ye who 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 field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light. *Refrain*
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star. *Refrain*
- 4 Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear. *Refrain*

### **Confession and Absolution**

**P** On this holy night, merciful Father, hear our confession, for frequently we hesitate to take Your Son.

**C** **Instead we take the forbidden fruit, like Adam and Eve, and hide behind the bushes.**

**P** We take advantage of others, while mouthing pious words.

**C** **We take Your blessings for granted, living with thankless hearts.**

**P** We take vengeance upon those who hurt us, promising retaliation.

**C** **We take life into our own hands, ignoring Your holy will.**

**P** We take refuge and satisfaction in sin, spurning Your commandments.

**C** **We take hold of our possessions, refusing to let them go.**

**P** We take part in sinful conversations, oblivious as to how they break Your heart.

**C** **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

**P** Luke writes in tonight's gospel lesson, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). Jesus your Savior took your place in the manger and upon the cross. As the Christ and Lord, Jesus took all of your sin, shame, and brokenness. I announce to you the complete and full pardon of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**C** **A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You gave Your only Son to take our human nature upon Himself and

to be born of a virgin. Grant that we may rejoice in this Christmas gift—“For unto you is born today in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord”; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

*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!
- 3 How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings 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.
- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 9:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<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.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 4:5-6*

<sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>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.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Solo**

"Somewhere in Your Silent Night"

Jessica Krueger

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:1-20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

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

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

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

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

### Mini Message

#### 368 Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368

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

*Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3 Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

### Sermon

#### Christmas Eve Litany

**P** As we light our candles, we remember and worship our Savior, Jesus Christ, God's light of love.

**C** "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you" (Isaiah 60:1).

- P** “When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life’” (John 8:12).
- C** “**For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth**” (Ephesians 5:8-9).
- P** “In the same way, let your light shine before people, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

## Candle Lighting Ceremony *(The lights are dimmed.)*

### 363 Silent Night, Holy 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.
- 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  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

### Prayer of the Church

**P** For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**C** **A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

### Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

## Benediction

**P** Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

**C** For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness”—

**P** Has shone in our hearts.

**C** To give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God—

**P** In the face of Jesus Christ.

**C** For unto us is born today in the city of David—a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

## 387 Joy to the World

*LSB 387*

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

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.

### Acknowledgments

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December 25	Christmas Day Worship w/Communion	9 a.m.
December 27	Service of Lessons & Carols	9 a.m.
December 31	New Year’s Eve Worship w/Communion	5:30 p.m.

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Rev. Mark L. Krueger, Pastor

Jessica Krueger, Organist