



December 24, 2020

## THE PRELUDE

**Organist:** Raquel White  
**Trumpet:** Gene Burmeister

## A TIME OF GREETING

### OPENING HYMN:

*Hope was Born This Night*

Tonight I can see a star shine,  
And its splendor fills up the sky  
It's the same that appeared and the wise  
men revered,  
when Hope was born this night.

Out upon the snowy fields  
There's a silent peace that heals,  
And it echoes the grace of our Savior's  
embrace  
Because Hope was born this night.

Glory to God in the highest,  
Peace on earth, goodwill toward men.  
Let all of the world sing the chorus of joy,  
Because Hope was born this night.

I can hear the Christmas bells ring,  
As softly a church choir sings.  
It's the song used to praise the Ancient of  
days,  
When Hope was born this night.

There are angles in this place,  
And my heart resounded the praise.

Like a shepherd so scared, I'll rejoice and  
declare  
That Hope was born this night.

Glory to God in the highest  
Peace on Earth, goodwill toward men  
Let all of the world sing the chorus of joy  
Because hope was born this night

Gloria! Gloria! Gloria!  
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria!  
Gloria! Gloria!

Glory to God in the highest  
Peace on earth, goodwill toward men.  
Let all of the world sing the chorus of joy,  
Because Hope was born this night.

Glory to God in the highest  
Peace on earth, goodwill toward men,  
Let all of the world sing the chorus of joy,  
Because Hope was born this night.

I know Hope was born this night,  
Because Christ was born this night.

## \*THE INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

## \*RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 110:1-4

**P** <sup>1</sup>The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

**C** <sup>2</sup>The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

**P** <sup>3</sup>Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

**C** <sup>4</sup>The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

**\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray together.

**C** O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**LSB#379**

**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!*

**4** Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 7:10–14**

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.”

<sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

*The First Noel*

**1 The first noel, the angel did say,  
was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields where they lay;  
in fields where they lay  
keeping their sheep  
on a cold winter's night  
that was so deep.**

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel.*

**2 They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth, it gave great light  
and so it continued both day and night.**

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel.*

**EPISTLE READING:** *1 John 4:7–16*

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

*Away in a Manger*

**LSB#364**

**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.**

**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 till 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.**

**\*HOLY GOSPEL:** *Matthew 1:18-25*

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

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

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, 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. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup>“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

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

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

## NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

## SERMON HYMN

*Manger Throne*

by Julie Miller

What kind of King would leave His  
throne  
In Heaven to make this earth His home?  
While men seek fame and great renown  
In lowliness our King comes down  
Refrain: *Jesus, Jesus, precious One*  
*How we thank You that You've come*  
*Jesus, Jesus, precious One*  
*A manger throne for God's own son*  
You left the sound of angels' praise  
To come for men with unkind ways  
And by this Baby's helplessness  
The power of nations is laid to rest  
Jesus, Jesus, precious One  
How we thank You that You've come

Jesus, Jesus, precious One  
A manger throne for God's own son  
What kind of King would come so small  
From Glory to a humble stall?  
That dirty manger is my heart too!  
I'll make it a royal throne for You.  
Jesus, Jesus, precious One  
How we thank You that You've come!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious One  
A manger throne for God's own son.  
Jesus, Jesus, precious One  
How we thank You that You've come!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious One  
A manger throne,  
My heart is a throne for God's own Son.

## SERMON

### *What A Glorious Night*

The shepherds came to see the baby  
Stood by his mother's side  
Here lay the Savior inside a manger  
Oh, what a glorious night!  
Oh, what a glorious night!

*I hear the angels singing Alleluia!*  
*Let the earth receive her King*  
*I know that love has come*  
*Sing it out*  
*Jesus Christ is born!*  
*Jesus Christ is born!*  
*Yeah, yeah, yeah.*

The shepherds wonder;  
They couldn't hide it,  
Told everyone in sight  
All were amazed when they heard how  
God came down on the glorious night,  
God came down on this glorious night.

*I hear the angels singing Alleluia!*  
*Let the earth receive her King*  
*I know that love has come*  
*Sing it out*  
*Jesus Christ is born!*  
*Jesus Christ is born!*

## OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Yeah, yeah, yeah*

**Glorious! Glorious!**  
**What a Glorious night**  
**Glorious! Glorious!**  
**What a Glorious night.**

**I hear the angels singing Alleluia!**  
**Let the earth receive her King**  
**I know that love has come**  
**Sing it out;**  
**Jesus Christ is born!**

**I hear the angels singing Alleluia!**  
**Let the earth receive her King**  
**I know that love has come**  
**Sing it out;**  
**Jesus Christ is born!**  
**I heard that Jesus Christ is born!**

**All is calm now all is quiet**  
**A Star shining in the sky**  
**Below in Bethlehem**  
**The king is sleeping**  
**Oh, What a Glorious Night!**  
**Oh, What a Glorious Night!**

**\*LORDS PRAYER** [Tune: Midnight Clear]

**Our Father, Lord in heav'n's high  
throne,  
Most holy be Your name.  
Your kingdom come. Your will be done  
One earth in heav'n the same.  
Give us this day the food we need;  
Forgiven may we be;**

**Into temptation do no lead;  
From evil set us free**

**Yours is the kingdom; unto You  
In grateful love we bow;  
And Yours the pow'r; Lord, let us view  
Your mighty presence now  
The glory Yours, Your praise be sung  
Through-out the world again  
In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue  
For-ever-more, Amen!**

**\*HOLY COMMUNION**

[Tune: I Heard the Bells]

**C** The night Lord Jesus was betrayed  
He took the bread, and when He'd prayed,  
He broke and gave them of the bread  
And unto His disciples said:

**P** "Take and eat; this is My body which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

**C** Then, when the sacred meal was o'er,  
Our blessed Savior spoke once more:  
He offered thanks, and lifted up,  
To give to all, the blessed cup:

**P** "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament of My blood which is shed for you for the remission of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

*Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
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 the Savior's birth. *Refrain.*

**3** Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessèd Christmas morn. *Refrain.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

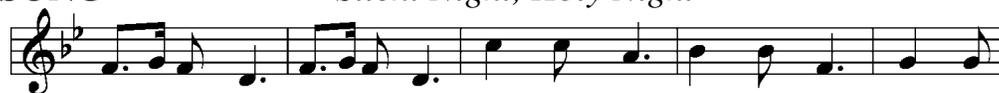
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

CLOSING SONG

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

LSB#363



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant



vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,  
stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n-ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
beams from Thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,



Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

