

*For to you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord.*

*Luke 2:11*



Saint Paul's Lutheran Church  
 Christmas Eve  
 December 24, 2017

**Prelude:** Ovation Strings

**Processional Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

**LSB 379**



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,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



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!  
 Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



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:  
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

*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 & Exhortation**

*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** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

### Confession of Sins

**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.

### Absolution

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained 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.

### Introit for Christmas Eve

**P** I will tell of the decree:

**C** The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

**P** The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,

**C** the world and those who dwell therein.

**P** Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

**C** And who shall stand in his holy place?

**P** He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

**C** who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

**P** He will receive blessing from the LORD

**C** and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

**C** 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** I will tell of the decree:

**C** The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

### Kyrie

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.  
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.  
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.  
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

### Collect for Christmas Eve

**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.

### Hymn: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

LSB 366

1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,  
 2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,  
 3 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,  
 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,  
 From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
 And still their heav'n-ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea-ry world.  
 Who toil a-long a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:  
 When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.  
 "Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."  
 A-bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-'ring wing,  
 Look up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,  
 His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,  
 The world in sol-ern still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing,  
 And ev-er o'er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.  
 The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.  
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

### Old Testament Lesson (Isaiah 9:2-7)

<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.

**Kids Choir:** "Mary's Boy Child"

**Epistle Lesson** (Titus 2:11-14)

<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.

**Chancel Choir:** "One Small Child"

Emerson

## Gospel Processional

*Please Stand and Face the Processional Cross*

### Hymn: "Once in Royal David's City"

LSB 376

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is

low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a

ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y  
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the

was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.

**Gospel Lesson** (Luke 2:1-20)

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>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, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" <sup>15</sup>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." <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

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

## Hymn: "Once in Royal David's City"

LSB 376

3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by  
4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His  
day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and  
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and  
help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He  
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He  
feels for all our sad-ness, And He shares in all our glad-ness.  
leads His chil-dren on To the place where He is gone.

5 Not in that poor, lowly stable  
With the oxen standing by  
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high.  
Then like stars His children, crowned,  
All in white, His praise will sound!

## Sermon

**Theme:** "All the World should be Registered"

**Text:** Luke 2:1-20

## 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.

**Offering** "What Child Is This"

Ovation Strings

*Please Stand*

**Post Offering Hymn: "We Give Thee But Thine Own" LSB 781**



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What-e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we Thy boun-ties thus As stew-ards true re-ceive



All that we have is Thine a-lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
And glad-ly, as Thou bless-est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

## Prayer of the Church

*Petitions included here. Ending with:*

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

## Lord's Prayer

**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.

**Hymn: "Joy to the World"**

**LSB 387**



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

## Benediction

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with  $\text{✠}$  you all.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn: "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.

## Dismissal

**P** Go in peace. Share the Good News.

**G** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude:** "Festive Postlude"

Young

## Up Coming Worship Services

### Christmas Day Communion Service

Monday, December 25 at 10:00am

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Service

Sunday, December 31 at 10:00am

### The Epiphany of our Lord Communion Service

Saturday, January 6 at 7:00pm

## Candle Lighting 101



Here's the procedure: The candles will come to you with the cup down. Once your candle has been lit, slide the cup up to fully enclose the flame. Note: Try not to slide the cup down—sliding the cup down on the candle produces—guess what! Wax crumbs (what we were trying to avoid).

**DO NOT TIP A LIT CANDLE! THE UNLIT CANDLE SHOULD BE TIPPED AND THEN HELD STRAIGHT WHILE THE NEXT UNLIT CANDLE IS TIPPED FOR A LIGHT. LIT CANDLES SHOULD ALWAYS BE HELD UPRIGHT.**

After the singing of "Silent Night, Holy Night" please blow out your candle and let the wax dry. Please place your candle into the box in the narthex.

## Participating in Today Service

Pastor – Rev. Daniel R. Burns

Music Director / Organist – Thomas Hanna

Elder – Adam Schmidt

Crucifer – Zach Burns

Acolytes – Austin Kolden / Kyle Glauvitz

Kids Choir Director – Carol Emmans

## Ovation Strings

**Laurie Melting** received her Bachelors Degree in music from Northwestern University, and her Masters Degree from DePaul University. She has played with various chamber groups, including Chicago based Kreisler String Quartet, which performed in Europe. Laurie also plays in various bands (blues, jazz, rock) and uses her training and experience to create all of the quartet's arrangements of popular/contemporary songs.

**Sue Bennefeld** graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in violin performance. She also plays with Exultate and at Wooddale Church. Previously, she played with Rochester Symphony and was concertmaster of Wayzata Symphony. In addition to performing, Sue has a full music studio of private violin and viola students.

**Sarah Bennefeld** graduated with a performance degree from Normandale College, where she studied with Richard Marshall of the Minnesota Orchestra. By the time she graduated, Sarah was already a very active freelance musician in the Twin Cities. She has played with the Rochester Symphony and Exultate, and also has a studio of private violin and viola students.

**Julia Stewart** received a degree in cello performance from the prestigious Indiana University. She is a very active cellist in the Twin Cities, and besides Ovation, plays with various churches. She has also played in bands, and teaches private cello and piano.