

The Nativity of our Lord Christmas Eve



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Dec. 24, 2022

Christmas Eve Service

Preservice Music

Pavane for a Silent Night

Adult Choir

Opening Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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!

Stand

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

P As we stand in awe tonight before the wondrous gift of God to us in the manger, we must see the greatness of our worthiness for which the Savior had to come into the world. We, therefore, confess our sins of thought, word, and deed, taking refuge in God's infinite mercy, and imploring His grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Merciful Father, we bow before the wondrous manifestation of Your love this night in the gift of Your only begotten Son. We confess that it is also our sins which make necessary Christ's coming to this earth. We have been loveless and selfish. We have gone our own way instead of Your way. O Lord, for the sake of Jesus, whose birth we celebrate this night, we plead for mercy and ask You graciously to forgive us all our sins. Grant us the peace which the newborn Savior brings to all who believe in Him.

P In the name of the Christ who has come that we might be delivered from our sins, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all of your sins, in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Sit

Hymn

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

386



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.
3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign - ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty
Where the an - gels sing - ing With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee! Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–14

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Whoever Seeks The Christ

Adult Choir

Epistle

1 John 4:7–16

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In 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. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.
¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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 while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 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.

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 fear. 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. 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 among those with whom he is pleased!"

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. 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Refrain
 Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Sermon

Pastor Schultz

Stand

Confession of Faith

I believe 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 on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean? **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death. That I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for ourselves, for all who celebrate our Lord's birth, for all the body of Christ, and for all people according to their needs:

For ourselves, that we may cherish the gift of our Savior, who came to remove our sins far from us, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who celebrate our Lord's birth that they may be renewed in a heavenly peace that translates into peace in their thoughts, words, and actions, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who face this night with tears due to oppression, the fear of violence, poverty, or conflict with the people around them, that they may rely on God's peace, that passes all understanding, and rely on Him for all they need, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who must deal with chronic ills and medical emergencies, that God's eternal care may strengthen them for their struggles in their current conditions, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who mourn during this time of celebration, that the Holy Spirit would strengthen them until that time when they may again meet each day in confidence and joy, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, for the sake of Your Son, our new-born King.

C Amen

Sit

Offering

Anthem

How Many Kings

Alaina Gray

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

Hark the Herald Angels Sing – sts. 3

- C** **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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Lord’s Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **Amen**

We greet one another with the “Peace of the Lord.”

Agnus Dei

Tune – Hymn 361

- C** **Lord Jesus, holy Lamb of God, You take our sins away;**
Lord Jesus, holy Lamb of God, You take our sins away.
We who are gathered here now Ask peace for all the earth;
Grant Christmas peace to one and all, And heav’nly joy and mirth.

Sit

Distribution Hymn

What Child Is This

370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y’s lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Distribution Hymn

Away in a Manger

364



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
 Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the sky _____ looked down where He lay,
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Distribution Hymn

O Sing of Christ

362



- 1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,
- 2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par - a - dise was barred;
- 3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re - ceived;
- 4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.
 Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.
 Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.
 As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace
 For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;
 To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,
 Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.
 He came to us as life and light And our re - demp - tion won.
 Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.
 That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

Distribution Hymn

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

377



- 1 On Christ-mas night all Chris - tians sing To hear the news the
- 2 Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Re - deem - er
- 3 When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then life and health come
- 4 All out of dark-ness we have light, Which made the an - gels



an - gels bring, On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing To
made us glad, Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since
in its place, When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then
sing this night, All out of dark - ness we have light, Which



hear the news the an - gels bring, News of great joy, news of great
our Re - deem - er made us glad, When from our sin He set us
life and health come in its place; An - gels and men with joy may
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace to



mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
free, All for to gain our lib - er - ty?
sing, All for to see the new - born King.
men Now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

Distribution Hymn

It Came upon a Midnight Clear

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,

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.

Reading

Isaiah 60:1-3

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. ³And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Christmas Collect

P O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

Recessional Hymn

Joy to the World

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.

Soli Deo Gloria



Officiant: Rev. Dr. David Schultz

Organist: James Gauen

Choir Director: Joe Meador

Soloist: Alaina Gray

Trumpet: Jon Giordano, Dennis Meyer, Cohl Barnes, Will Norman

French Horn: Ben Johnson

Poinsettias Adorning The Church

Steve & Linda Arbuthnot in memory of our parents, brothers, sisters and friends.

Mike & Kelly Arbuthnot in memory of Richard & Carolyn Miller, Homer & Charlotte Arbuthnot, and Robert Logan.

Mel & Sharon Arnold in thankfulness of our Grandsons – Kaden & Cameron Schleeper.

Mike, Jennifer, Jessica, Joshua & Allison Baggett in memory of Arlene Hall.

Ron & Donna Baker in memory of Lorene & Donnie Baker. In thankfulness for family and health.

Eric & Karen Bollinger to the glory of God and thankfulness for our family – Drew, Bill, Severene, Claire, Hadlee and all who we love.

The Boots Family in thankfulness for our children, Avery & Cameron and in memory of our grandparents that have met our Lord Jesus. To God be the Glory!

Jo Elle Brady & John Prante in memory of our parents George & Eleanor Prante.

Matt & Millie Chmielewski in loving memory of our brother/brother-in-law Charles David Keller.

The Choat Family in loving memory of James Choat.

Darlene Claussen in memory of my husband, Bud and daughter, Tina Marie.

Darran Dale in memory of my uncle Charles David Keller.

Gail Davis in memory of Mary Smith.

Terry & Kathy Disher in memory of our son Zachary Disher and grandparents Herman & Adrienne Rademacher.

Harold Emde in memory of my wife, Ellen, and parents Maria & Ewald Emde.

Jim & June Evilsizer in memory of Elmer & Doraine Bender, Fred Bender, Paul Bender, Jim Sr. & Helen Evilsizer.

Leslie Fincher in memory of my parents, Everett & Muriel Sparks and Stan Fincher.

Irene Flowers in memory of my husband, Kenny, in thankfulness for my family.

Michele Forrester in memory of my mother, Pamela Forrester.

The Gauen Family to the Glory of God.

Maria Gould in memory of my parents, Andrew Bonilla and Maria Schmid.

Bill & Lisa Gray in memory of David & Dorothy Gray.

Brad & Kim Gwaltney in memory of George Gwaltney.

Dorothy Hachman in memory of my husband, Glenn Hachman and brother, Ray Westerhold.

Cheryl Hahnenkamp in thankfulness for my mom, Elaine Reinke and in memory of my dad, Edwin Reinke.

Don Halbe and Mary Heeren in memory of Oliver & Lois Halbe and Charlotte Heeren.

Ralph Hall in memory of Arlene Hall, a loving wife and beautiful mother and Nana.

The Hand Family in memory of Jewel, Angie and Allan.

Sue Hand in thankfulness and very blessed for my children and grandchildren. May the coming year bring all health and happiness.

Tom & Karen Hansen in thankfulness for all of God's blessings.

Sonny & Sue Hinson to the Glory of God, and for the many blessings He give to us and our family daily.

Jeff, Kathy & Mya Hunt in memory of Jack & Hilda Zimmerman, Jewel Lacey, Lenora Hailey & Rev. Dr. Arthur Kaul, Beulah & Daniel Kaul.

Kenneth Laper in memory of my wife, Joanne.

Keith & Judy Loemker in thankfulness for our three dear children and our grandchildren, and in loving memory of our parents Walt & Ruth Sievers and Walter & Ruth Loemker. In loving memory of Rev. Martin Schultz and Dorothy Laatsch.

Martz & Shifflett Families to the Glory of God and birth of Jesus, and in memory of the Martz, Shifflett, Gallinot, and Kumpus families.

Michael & Margaret McKeever in memory of our parents – Fern & Willard LaLumondier, brother, William LaLumondier and mother, Betty Hubach.

Don & Patty McReynolds & Family in memory of her dad, Kenny Flowers.

Jerry Metts in memory of my wife Pauline and my parents, Ray & Lois Metts.

Roger & Lona Mouser in memory of Lona's parents – Clyde & Virginia Searles; Roger's parents – Web & Beryl Mouser and his brother, Gary.

David Neunaber & Jill & Lino Rulli in loving memory of our grandparents Neil and Nita Neunaber.

Don & Doug Neunaber in memory of our parents, Neil and Nita Neunaber, who are with the Lord.

Bill & Pam Norman in memory of Pam's mother Arlene Smith and friends Florence Legnini & Bob Miller.

Kathy Opel in memory of her parents, Don & Vera Opel and her aunt & uncle, Betty & Richard Hirsch.

Drew & Vanessa Richards in memory of David & Judy Richards, Gerald & Virginia Wade, Andrew Biro & Jack Spano.

Gary and Jean Robinson in memory of Joshua Tungett.

Laura Sammons in thankfulness for my family & God's gracious gifts and mercy.

Becky Sanders in memory of my mom & dad in Heaven - Elpedio & Flora Nunez.

Pastor David & Jenna Schultz & family to the Glory of God.

Ruth Schultz in memory of my husband, Rev. Martin Schultz and to the Glory of God.

Bill & Dionne Sewell in thankfulness for Lucas & Claire Abbacchi and all our nieces and nephews.

The Skinner & Briggs Families in thankfulness for our family and the many blessings God has given us, and in memory of our loved ones who are in heaven.

Gregg & Sara Sladek in thankfulness for our grandson, Jameson Schroeder.

Rebecca Sparr in thankfulness for my family.

Richard & Julie Strasen in memory of Jack & Hilda Zimmermann and Annette Strasen.

Paul & Judy Struharik in memory of our parents – Marge & Rudy Struharik and Aileen & Albert Akers.

Ashby Tipsword in loving memory of my wife, Jennifer, and family and friends who are home in heaven.

Kenny & Kris Worthy in thankfulness for God's Blessings.

We are thankful for the beautiful Poinsettia Display!

Blessed Christmas!

Pastor Schultz & Family

The Church & PreSchool Staff