

“LET US GO TO
BETHLEHEM

AND
SEE
THIS
GREAT THING
THAT HAS
TAKEN PLACE.”

LUKE 2:15



- *All baptized believing Christians are welcome to gather at the altar for Holy Communion. Grape juice and low gluten bread are available. Please see a greeter prior to the beginning of service.*
- *Please be sure to pick up a candle from the ushers before service.*

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Please maintain silence in the Sanctuary as we prepare for worship.

Prelude

“Before the Marvel of This Night”

The Good Shepherd Choir

Text: Jaroslave J. Vajda, b. 1919

Music: Carl Schalk, b. 1929

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God’s mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of peace,

C: **We confess that we are not at peace— with others or ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reconnect us to one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Hear this word of God’s pardon and peace: in the name of ✠ Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come.

C: **Amen.**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

We Sit

A reading from the prophets

Isaiah 9: 2-7 (NRSV)

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

(continued)

Carol **“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”** **ELW 272 v. 1 & 2**

A reading from Paul

Titus 2: 11-14 (NRSV)

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Carol **“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”** **ELW 244 v 1 & 2**

Christmas Gospel

Luke 2: 1-4 (NRSV)

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

Carol **“O Little Town of Bethlehem”** **ELW 279 v 1 & 4**

Christmas Gospel

Luke 2: 5-7 (NRSV)

⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Christmas Gospel

Luke 2: 8-14 (NRSV)

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.¹⁰But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’

Carol “Angels We Have Heard on High” ELW 289 v 1 & 3

Christmas Gospel

Luke 2: 15-20 (NRSV)

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SERMON

Rev. Bill Carr

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.**(next page)*

We stand

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your Mercy is great.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

We sit

OFFERING

OFFERTORY **“O Holy Night”** Theron Conklin

Offertory Hymn **Mary, Did You Know?** *back of bulletin*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 107

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows a musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a double bar line after the first two staves.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;... we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

S 108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
(continued)

The image shows a musical score for 'Sanctus and Benedictus' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. (continued)'. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat: this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word
dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

COMMUNION

P: Glory to God in the Highest! Come to the table of peace.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

(next page)

LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION CAROLS

Instrumental

"What Child is This"	Kari Novilla ELW 296 v 1
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	ELW 270 v 1
"The First Noel"	ELW 300 v 1
"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"	ELW 282 v 1
"Once in Royal David's City"	ELW 269 v 1

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE (*Nunc Dimitis*)

ELW 113

S 113



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. God our Redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

(next page)

Ushers dim the lights

John 1: 1-14 (NRSV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Hebrews 1: 1-4 (NRSV)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

→ *Ushers will light the first candle from the Christ candle and then pass the light to the congregation. Please light your candle by tipping the UNLIT candle into the lit candle. As you light the next person's candle, please say "the light of Christ."*

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.

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!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C: Thanks be to God!

(continued)

Worship Notes

♦ **PLEASE BE CAREFUL WITH THE LIT CANDLES!**

We certainly don't want the pierce of a Morristown Fire Dept. siren to interrupt our "Silent Night!" ☺ ***When you light your candle, hold the lit candle upright and tip the unlit candle.*** If you tip the candle that is already lit, you will drip wax. Be careful not to drip wax on the furnishings or floor. *Please extinguish the candles before you depart.* **Please place the candles in the basket located in the Narthex (lobby).**

- ♦ Tonight we celebrate the "Christ Mass". Mass is from the Latin word, *Messo*, which means "Sending". Having heard the Word and having been nourished by the Word made flesh again in communion, we are sent out to bring the Word to others.
- ♦ Light is used throughout the service to visually proclaim the Gospel; God has become what we are, so that all nations may know Christ as Lord! Again, as we go forth tonight, let us go and bear that light to the nations.
- ♦ We sing the Post-Communion Canticle, "Now Lord, let you servant go in peace..." These are the words of Simeon, after the baby Jesus was circumcised in Luke 2: 21-35.

Reminders & Announcements

The greens in the church are in memory of Sara Poovey from her church family. The greening of the church was done by Sally Allen, Felicia Brandt, Rae Johnson, and Wylene Hinkle. The Chrismon Tree is given by Karoline and Ric Van Horn in loving memory of Sara Poovey

Communion Assistant: Matt Bergstresser

Communion Setup: Wylene Hinkle

Pastor: Rev. Bill Carr

Harpist: Kari Novilla

Lector: Felicia Brandt

Organist/Choir: Karoline Van Horn

Special Music: Good Shepherd Choir, Kari Novilla, and Theron Conklin

Storyteller: Olwynne Crampton

Poinsettias given this Christmas

- In honor of our Grandchildren
by Theron & Ann Conklin*
- In honor of our Children
by Theron & Ann Conklin*
- In memory of Charles & Mary Wetzel
by Theron & Ann Conklin*
- In memory of Tom & Ramona Conklin
by Theron & Ann Conklin*
- In honor of Our Children
by Ed & Judy Skorski*
- In loving memory of Susie, Stan & Olga, & Mike & Lois
by Ed & Judy Skorski*
- In honor of Troy Werner
by Steve & Cindy Werner*
- In honor of Jenni Werner
by Steve & Cindy Werner*
- In loving memory of Paul & Sylvia Null
by Steve & Cindy Werner*
- In loving memory of Harold & Olinda Werner
by Steve & Cindy Werner*
- In honor of Troy Absher
by Carolyn Absher*
- In loving memory of Troy Absher
by Carolyn Absher*
- In loving memory of Sara Poovey
by Marilyn Fahringer*
- In loving memory of Dick Fahringer
by Marilyn Fahringer*
- In loving memory of Raymond Knoll
by the Kubis Family*
- In loving memory of Chuck Kubis
by the Kubis Family*

(continued)

*In loving memory of Karen White
by the Kubis family*

*In loving memory of Adam Knoerr
by the Kubis family*

*In honor of our children & grandchildren
Phil, Sandee, Andrew & Eric Jarrell,
Rebecca & Hailey Wassum
by Betty & Jack Lowe.*

*In honor of our children, grandchildren, & great grand-
children
by Rev. Bob & Geri Schefter*

*In loving memory of Arthur Schefter, Helen Schefter, &
Betty Schefter
by Rev. Bob & Geri Schefter*

*In loving memory of Robert MacIntyre & Marguerite
MacIntyre, & Ali Hartman
by Rev. Bob & Geri Schefter*

*In honor of Our Children Angee & David Woody,
& Amy Allen Keesee
by Carroll & Sally Allen*

*In honor of our grandchildren Rachel & Laura Woody,
Nolan & Caroline Keesee.
by Carroll & Sally Allen*

*In honor of our parents Nancy & Richard Neas, and
Ted & Nelle Allen
by Carroll & Sally Allen.*

*In loving memory of Ivan & Stephanie Crampton
by Olwynne & Barry*

*In honor of Amanda, Brian, Bryant, & Michael Reilly
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In honor of Cliff, Carrie, Parker, Annalee, & Adeline
Thompson
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In loving memory of John & Elizabeth Thompson
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In loving memory of Melvin & Mary-Louise Zvonar
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In loving memory of Ann Cole
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In loving memory of our parents, William & Rhonda Van
Horn, & Bud & Norma Manger
by Ric & Karoline Van Horn*

*In loving memory of Sara Poovey
by Ric & Karoline Van Horn*

*In honor of our four daughters & grandchildren
by Ric & Karoline Van Horn*

*In honor of our Good Shepherd Family and 10 years of
Joshua & Bergen being together!
by The Gray Family*

*In loving memory of Shirley & George Koland
by Rea Johnson*

*In loving memory of Jane & James Johnson
by Rea Johnson*

*In loving memory of my parents
by Darlene Kline*

209 Mary, Did You Know?

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19 (NIV)

1. Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy would one day walk
 2. Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy would give sight to
 3. Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy is Lord of all

on wa - ter? Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy
 the blind man? Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy
 cre - a - tion? Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy

would save our sons and daugh - ters? Did you know that
 would calm the storm with His hand? Did you know that
 will one day rule the na - tions? Did you know that

your ba - by boy has come to make you new? γ This
 your ba - by boy has walked where an - gels trod; γ And
 your ba - by boy is heav - en's per - fect Lamb; And the

Third time to Coda ◊

Child that you've de - liv - ered will soon de - liv - er you.
 when you kiss your ba - by you've kissed the face of God?
 sleep - ing Child you're hold -

1. D.C. 2. *Bridge*

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the

deaf will live a - gain. The lame will leap, the

D.C. al Coda ◊

dumb will speak the prais - es of the Lamb!

◊ Coda *molto rit.*

ing is the great I AM!

COMING UP AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Sunday, December 24	7:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship
Sunday, December 31	First Sunday of Christmas 10:00 am Worship Service 7 pm—12 am Christ News, <i>fellowship hall</i>
Tuesday, January 2	5:30 pm Christ News 6:00 pm American Legion
Saturday, January 6	Epiphany of Our Lord
Sunday, January 7	Baptism of Our Lord 10:00 am Worship Service <i>Gather in the Narthex</i> 11:15 am Bible Study
Thursday, January 11	6:30 pm Mission Council Meeting
Sunday, January 14	Second Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Congregational Meeting
Monday, January 15	10:00 am—12:00 pm Food Pantry
Sunday, January 21	Third Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Installation of Pastor Bill Carr
Sunday, January 28	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Bible Study
Sunday, February 4	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Bible Study
Tuesday, February 6	6:00 pm American Legion