

# Candlelight Worship Guide

Christmas Eve 2021

December 24 ~ 3:00, 5:30, and 10:00 pm

## Prelude

Organ - “*In Dulci Jubilo*” and “*This is the Day So Joyous*” –

Johann Sebastian Bach; “*Greensleeves*” – Richard Purvis

Organ and piano 3:00 & 5:30 – “*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*” Lani Smith

Piano 3:00 Donette Rasmussen, 5:30 Beth Fritz; Organ - Dick Morris

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## Welcome

To prepare for this service, please bring the following items to the place where you will be participating in worship:

- A plate with bread on it. Cover the bread with a napkin or cloth.
- A cup or glass with wine or grape juice. You may have small cups for each of the people who will be participating. You may pour from the one cup into the many cups later during the service.
- A heart, soul and mind open to the love of God in Christ Jesus.
- You may wish to have 4 candles that can be an Advent Wreath for your home. Tonight a 5<sup>th</sup> candle will be lit to celebrate Jesus’ birth.
- You may also wish to have battery-operated candles, flashlights, or real candles to light later during the service.

## Gathering Song: “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*” ELW 279

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;  
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893; Text – public domain

### Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen**

### Special Music:

5:30 "Mary, Did You Know" Lowry and Greene –

Evelyn Runck and Nathan Steele

10:00 "Good News" Natalie Sleeth – Trinity Choir

### Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Lighting of the Christ Candle on the Advent Wreath

### Welcoming the Gospel: "**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing**" ELW 270

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."

Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

## The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

3 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 we no more may die,  
born to raise each child of earth,  
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.; Text – public domain

## Sermon Pastor Susan Haukaas

## Hymn of the Day: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" ELW 282

1 It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
from heav'n's all-gracious king."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heav'nly music floats  
o'er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hov'ring wing,  
and ever o'er its babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.
- 3 And you, beneath life's crushing load,  
whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way  
with painful steps and slow:  
look now, for glad and golden hours  
come swiftly on the wing;  
oh, rest beside the weary road  
and hear the angels sing!
- 4 For lo! The days are hast'ning on,  
by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years  
shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and all the world give back the song  
which now the angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876; Text – public domain

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

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## Prayers of the Church

Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

... in the name of Jesus. **Amen**

## Offering of Music:

**3:00 “Emmanuel” by Tomlin and Cash sung by Celebration**

**5:30 “The First Noel” arr. Smith and Hustad – piano and organ**

**10:00 “Carols Around” – Carl J. Nygaard, Jr. sung by Trinity Choir**

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## **Offertory Song: “*In the Bleak Midwinter*” ELW#294 (v 3)**

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

## **Offertory Prayer**

Gracious God,  
you came to us as one unknown,  
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.  
Nourish us at your banquet table,  
that with all who welcome your birth  
we may proclaim your peace,  
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **Words of Institution – Invitation to Prepare at Home**

At this time, please take the bread you have and uncover it.  
Do the same with the wine/grape juice and pour it into the cup you will use.

Gathered together into the one body of Christ from the many places where we experience this holy time of worship, we remember:

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.

## Lord's Prayer

**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**

## Distribution

Come to the banquet for all is now ready. At this time, you may eat the bread and drink the wine, the body and blood of Christ, trusting in faith that Christ is with you.

If you are with other people, you may give them bread and the wine to eat and drink and then receive these gifts of God for yourself.

If you are not partaking in the meal at this time, receive this blessing: Jesus loves you. This I know.

## Distribution Hymns:

### **"O Come, All Ye Faithful" ELW 283 (v. 1, 2, 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      The 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*

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2; Text – public domain

### **“What Child is This?” ELW 296**

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
the cross be borne for me, for you;  
hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary!
- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898; Text – public domain

### **“Away in a Manger” ELW 277**

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his 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 you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.; Text – public domain

### Post-Communion Prayer

#### Candle Lighting: John 1:1-14

(Please tip your unlit candle into the Christ candle of your Advent wreath.)

#### Congregational Hymn: “**Silent Night, Holy Night**” ELW 281

- 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 your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885; Text – public domain

### Prayer

(Please extinguish candles)

### Benediction

#### Sending Hymn: “**Joy to the World**” ELW 267

- 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 all 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 sin and sorrow 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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Text – public domain

## Dismissal

**Postlude – “Angels We Have Heard on High” arr. Anne Krentz Organ**

### **Association of Lutheran Church Musicians**

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Music: French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

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May you have a blessed Christmas.