

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

December 24, 2021

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN LSB 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

- 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*

*Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

- 2 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*

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

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Pastor: Unto us the Christ is born.

People: O come, let us worship Him.

Pastor: In the beginning was the Word.

People: and the Word was with God,

Pastor: and the Word was God;

People: He was in the beginning with God.

Pastor: In Him was life;

People: and the life was the light of men.

Pastor: The Light shines in the darkness;

People: and the darkness has not overcome it.

Pastor: God is light:

People: and in Him is no darkness.

Pastor: If we walk in the Light, we have fellowship with one another

People: for the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

People: The light no darkness can overcome.

Pastor: Unto us the Christ is born.

People: O come, let us worship Him.

Pastor: Let us Pray.

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 Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

READING Isaiah 9: 2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. 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. 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. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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.

READING Titus 2: 11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 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.

READING Luke 2: 1-20

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 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 laying 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.

HYMN LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat

- 1 The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.
- 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath'ring nations come:
They joy as when the reapers bear Their harvest treasures home,
Their harvest treasures home.
- 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,
 And on His shoulder ever rests All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
 All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
- 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor, The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.
- 5 His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based, His reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.

(stand)

- 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

HOMILY

HYMN LSB 368 Angels We Have Heard on High

- 1 Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*
- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the new-born King. *Refrain*

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

CANDLE LIGHTING

(As the lights are being dimmed the Pastor will light a candle from the Christ Candle as the candle lighters come forward, then Pastor will say:)

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

*(The Pastor then lights the candles of the candle lighters who distribute it to the congregation. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright; the unlighted candle is tipped to be lighted. **At the conclusion of "Silent Night" we would ask everyone to please extinguish their candles.** Please return your candles after you exit the Sanctuary for our next worship service.)*

HYMN LSB 363 Silent Night

- 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.

(Lights are now brought back up in the sanctuary, please extinguish your candle.)

BLESSING

Pastor: May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon himself, bless you this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May God, who in the Word make flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you forever.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN LSB 387 Joy to the World (Please stand)

- 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 men 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 sins and sorrows 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.

SILENT PRAYER

RECESSIONAL

Christmas Day
Divine Service
with Holy Communion
December 25, 2021
10:00 A.M.