

Joy  
TO  
THE  
WORLD  
THE  
Lord  
Has Come

*Christmas Eve*

*December 24, 2024 · 3:00 & 5:00pm*

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 North Broad Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

507-385-2180  
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## Pre-Service Hymn Sing:

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”	LSB 377
“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”	LSB 366
“God Loves Me Dearly”	LSB 392
“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”	LSB 375
“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”	LSB 386
“Go Tell It on the Mountain”	LSB 388

## Service of Light

### “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379, *sts. 1, ref, 2*

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

ref O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!

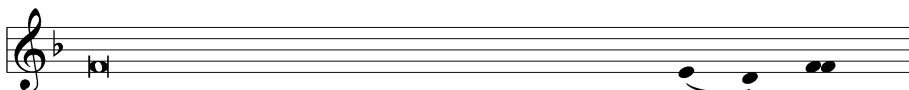
2 Highest, most holy,  
Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.; John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786 Text: Public domain

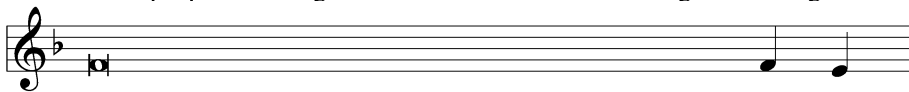
## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

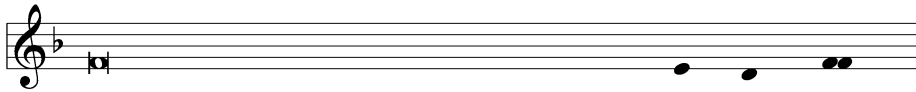
**C** Amen.



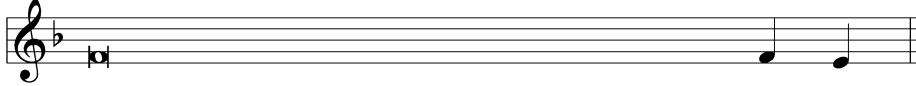
**L** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.



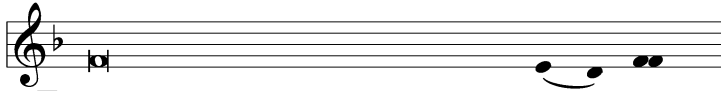
**C** The light shines in the darkness,  
but the darkness has not under - stood it.



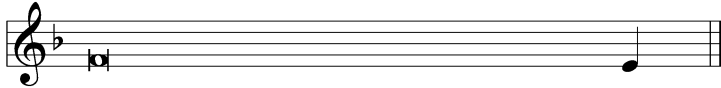
**L** On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.



**C** We have seen His glory, the glory of the  
one and only Son who came from the Fa - ther.



**L** For to us a child is born, to us a Son is giv - en.



**C** In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.

## Psalmody

### Psalm 141

*LSB 245*



**C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



the lift - ing up my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



when I cry to You. Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



Set a watch be-fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



Let not my heart in-cline to an-y e-vil thing;



let me not be oc-cu-pied in wick-ed-ness with e-vil-do-ers.



But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.



Strip me not of my life. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in



the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.



Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

**L** Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

**C** Amen.

## Anthem: “While Shepherds Watched Their Sheep”

Vocal Choir

## Hymn: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

LSB 359, *sts. 1–2*

- 1 Lo, how a rose e’er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse’s lineage coming  
As prophets long have sung,  
It came, a flow’ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.
  
- 2 Isaiah ’twas foretold it,  
The rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind.  
To show God’s love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.

Text: German, 16th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt. Text: Public domain

## Readings

### Reading

*Isaiah 7:10–14*

- L** A reading from Isaiah, chapter 7.

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

- L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Hymn: “Angels We Have Heard on High”

LSB 368, *sts. 1, ref, 3*

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

ref Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.; French Text: Public domain

## Reading

*Titus 2:11–14*

**L** A reading from Titus, chapter 2.

<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.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn: “Joy to the World”

**LSB 387**, *sts. 1, 3*

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.

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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Text: Public domain

## Reading

*Matthew 1:18–25*

**L** A reading from Matthew, chapter 1.

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Hymn: “What Child Is This”

LSB 370, *sts. 1–2*

- 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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98 Text: Public domain

### Reading

*Luke 2:1–7*

**L** A reading from Luke, chapter 2.

<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.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Hymn: “Away in a Manger”

LSB 364, *sts. 1, 3*

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

Text (st. 1): Little Children’s Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt.  
Text: Public domain

### Reading

*Luke 2:8–14*

**L** A reading from Luke, chapter 2.

<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!”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.



## Hymn: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LSB 380, *sts. 1, ref, 3*

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Refrain

ref Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

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 man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth. Refrain

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Text: Public domain

## Reading

*Luke 2:15–20*

**L** A reading from Luke, chapter 2.

<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.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**L** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**C** **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

## Hymn: “O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is”

LSB 372

- 1 O Jesus Christ,  
Thy manger is  
My paradise at which my soul reclineth.  
For there, O Lord,  
Doth lie the Word  
Made flesh for us; herein Thy grace forth shineth.
- 2 He whom the sea  
And wind obey  
Doth come to serve the sinner in great meekness.  
Thou, God’s own Son,  
With us art one,  
Dost join us and our children in our weakness.
- 3 Thy light and grace  
Our guilt efface,  
Thy heav’nly riches all our loss retrieving.  
Immanuel,  
Thy birth doth quell  
The pow’r of hell and Satan’s bold deceiving.
- 4 Thou Christian heart,  
Whoe’er thou art,  
Be of good cheer and let no sorrow move thee!  
For God’s own Child,  
In mercy mild,  
Joins thee to Him; how greatly God must love thee!
- 5 Remember thou  
What glory now  
The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.  
The angel host  
Can never boast  
Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.
- 6 The world may hold  
Her wealth and gold;  
But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true treasure.  
To Him hold fast  
Until at last  
A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

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## Sermon

## Prayer

## Litany

LSB 249

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For *[names of synodical and district presidents]*, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For *[name of president or monarch]*, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

**C** Alleluia.

**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

**C** To You, O Lord.

## Prayer

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.

## Collect for Peace

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB 251*

**L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.**

## Phos Hilaron

*LSB 244*



**L** Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



**C** of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,

bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the  
 set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.  
 We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:  
 You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -  
 ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:  
 the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

### Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245

[L] Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,  
 who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of  
 fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;  
 may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion

and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.

**C** A - men.

## Benedicamus

LSB 252

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 252

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** Amen.

*Candles are lit at this time. The person at the end of the center aisle will receive the flame from the pastor or acolyte to pass down the row. Keep the lit candle upright and tilt the unlit candle to receive the flame.*

## Closing Hymn: “Silent Night, Holy Night”

LSB 363, *sts. 1–3*

- 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.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85 Text: Public domain

**Acknowledgments**

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**Serving today:**

Liturgist .....	Rev. Adam M. Matheny
Preacher .....	Rev. John H. Koopman
Organist .....	Susan Klute
Special Music .....	Vocal Choir