

P R E P A R E Y E



*Prepare*  
A PLACE



*“Prepare a Place”*

*Thursday, December 24, 2020 at  
2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm & 8:00 pm*

**THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
(CHRISTMAS EVE)**

**AS WE GATHER**

Welcome to Christmas Eve worship to celebrate the Christ Child placed in a manger. Just as Mary and Joseph prepared a place for the baby Jesus to rest his head in a manger, so we prepare a place in our hearts this Christmas Eve for Jesus to be present with us.

*Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk (\*)*

**THE PRELUDE**

Alexander Tran, Accompanist

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Chris Matthis

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

*LSB 380*



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!  
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

Tune and text: Public domain

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### \*INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

### \*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

People: **the light no darkness can overcome.**

Pastor: Let Your light scatter the darkness

People: **and illumine Your Church.**

### MUSICAL INTERLUDE

(2:00 pm only)

"Bethlehem"

Praise Team

*Starlight in a mother's eyes  
 A Holy Child is born  
 Kings and shepherds on their knees  
 Adoring Christ the Lord*

*Bethlehem Bethlehem  
 Behold Your beautiful Savior!*

*Fall down, worship Him  
The King born in Bethlehem*

*He knew the secrets of the world  
His lips could not yet speak  
Heaven wrapped in flesh and blood  
The Son of Majesty*

*Bethlehem Bethlehem  
Behold Your beautiful Savior!  
Fall down, worship Him  
The King born in Bethlehem*

*Fall down, worship  
The Hope of Israel  
Come and adore Him  
Jesus, Emmanuel! [x2]*

*Bethlehem Bethlehem  
Behold Your beautiful Savior!  
Fall down, worship Him  
The King born in Bethlehem*

*O little town of Bethlehem  
How still we see thee lie  
Above the 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*

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (6:00 pm only)*

Handbells

### **\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** On this holy night, merciful Father, hear our confession, for frequently we hesitate to take your Son.

**People:** **Instead we take the forbidden fruit, like Adam and Eve, and hide behind the bushes.**

Pastor: We take advantage of others, while mouthing pious words.  
People: **We take your blessings for granted, living with thankless hearts.**

Pastor: We take vengeance upon those who hurt us, promising retaliation.  
People: **We take life into our own hands, ignoring your holy will.**

Pastor: We take refuge and satisfaction in sin, spurning your commandments.  
People: **We take hold of our possessions, refusing to let them go.**

Pastor: We take part in sinful conversations, oblivious as to how they break your heart.  
People: **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

Pastor: Luke writes in tonight's gospel lesson, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). Jesus your Savior took your place in the manger and upon the cross. As the Christ and Lord, Jesus took all of your sin, shame and brokenness. I announce to you the complete and full pardon of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

People: **A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

**\*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

LSB 368



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;

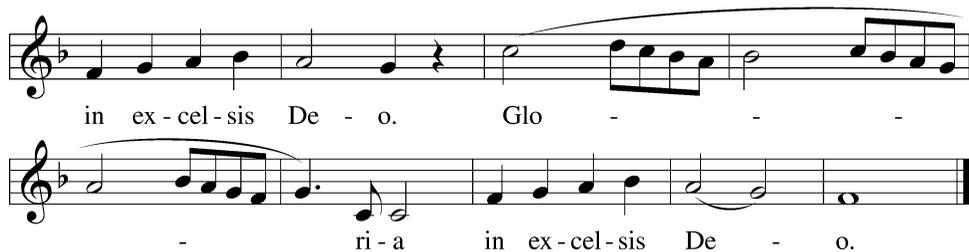


And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*



Glo - - - - - ri - a



Public domain

## \*SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, in the wondrous events of our Savior's birth, You have fulfilled the promise You made through the prophets and delivered to us Your own Son as our Savior and Lord. Help us to meet Christ in the manger of His Word and altar and there to worship Him with joy and thanksgiving. Grant us to carry forth into our lives the wonder of this night and to keep in holy lives the song of the angels at His birth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit we honor one Lord, one God, now and to the end of the ages.

People: **Amen.**

## + WORD +

### OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 9:2-7*

*(Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father, Mighty God)*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

*(2:00 pm only)*

*“He Shall Reign Forevermore”*

Praise Team

*In the bleak mid-winter, all creation groans  
For a world in darkness, frozen like a stone  
Light is breaking, in a stable  
For a throne*

*And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore  
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore  
Unto us a child is born  
The King of kings and Lord of lords  
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore*

*If I were a wise man, I would travel far  
And if I were a shepherd, I would do my part  
But poor as I am  
I will give to Him my heart*

*And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore  
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore  
Unto us a child is born  
The King of kings and Lord of lords  
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore*

*Here within a manger lies  
The One who made the starry skies  
This baby born for sacrifice  
Christ, the Messiah  
Into our hopes, into our fears  
The Savior of the world appears  
The promise of eternal years  
Christ, the Messiah*

*He shall reign forevermore, forevermore  
He shall reign forevermore, forevermore*

*He shall reign forevermore, forevermore*

*And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore  
Unto us a child is born  
The King of kings and Lord of lords  
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore*

*"He Is Born" (6:00 pm only)*

Adult Choir

*"What Child Is This?" (4:00 & 8:00 pm)*

LSB 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!

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## EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

*(God shines in our hearts!)*

For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

*"Away in a Manger"*

LSB 365



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 bright 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 night.  
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Text and tune: Public domain

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(2:00pm, 4:00pm & 6:00pm)*

DCE Kristin Schmidt

**\*HOLY GOSPEL***Luke 2:1-20**(The birth of Jesus Christ)*

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

**People: 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ!**

**CAROL** *(6:00 pm only)*

*"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

Men's Ensemble

**SERMON**

*"Prepare a Place"*

Pastor Chris Matthis

## \*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And, 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 at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**CAROL** (6:00 pm only)

*"Christmas Bells Are Ringing"*

Adult Choir

## \*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor:** Dear Lord Jesus, you came from eternity into time and space—not as a metaphor or myth, fable or tale—but to bear our sin and be our Savior. We sing to you with all the humility and joy we can muster, "Born that man no more may die, born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth." We praise, bless and adore you as we embrace the hymn of the angels. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**People: A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

**Pastor:** Dear Lord Jesus, we thank you that Luke took such great care to detail the history of your birth—one of the greatest details is the lowliness of your birth. Any other king—like Caesar Augustus—would've come with great fanfare and a royal entourage. But you came into our world in profound weakness. "No room in the inn" wasn't an insult to you; it was your choice, your plan, the way of the gospel. We rejoice with the angels who announced: For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**People: A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

**Pastor:** Dear Lord Jesus, you didn't consider equality with God something to be protected or hoarded. Rather, you made yourself nothing, becoming one of us. And with measureless love and indescribable compassion, you died in our place upon the cross. Thank you for these angelic lyrics. For unto you is born today in the city of David—

**People: A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!**

Pastor: Dear Lord Jesus, we long for the Day when every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that you are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. But on this Christmas Eve, we humble our-selves, in quietness and stillness, gratefulness and peace. We pray in your merciful and mighty name, Jesus.

People; Amen.

**\*LORD’S PRAYER** *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

**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.**

**OFFERING**

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit [www.epiphanylc.org](http://www.epiphanylc.org) and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.*



**OFFERTORY** (6:00 PM)  
(8:00 PM)

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”  
“Mary Did You Know?”

Handbells  
Mary Wenkheimer,  
soloist

*2:00 pm, please turn to **page 18** for the continuation of the service*

*4:00 PM and 6:00 PM service, please turn to **page 17**  
for the continuation of the service.*

**✠ SACRAMENT ✠**  
(8:00 ONLY)

**\*PREFACE**

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### \*PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; 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 know and love 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

*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

*LSB 507 vs. 1-2*



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore Thee,



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;  
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.

Text and tune: Public domain

**\*WORDS OF OUR LORD** *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\times$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\times$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**\*PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

*1 Corinthians 11:26*

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: Praise to You, O Lord, for having kept Your Word and bestowing upon us the unmistakable sign of Your favor by giving us Your only Son. Grant to us faith that we daily acknowledge His goodness and live out fully the promise of our Baptism, doing the good You desire and avoiding the evil You forbid. In the fullness of time, bring us at last into Your eternal presence, where we shall be gathered before Your throne of grace forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Through Him, with Him, and in Him, all glory and honor is Yours, almighty Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\*PAX DOMINI**

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

People: **Amen.**

**\*AGNUS DEI**

*“The Infant Priest Was Holy Born”*

*LSB 624 vs. 1-3 & 6*



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -  
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con  
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own  
6 The bod - y of God's Lamb we eat, A priest - ly



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple  
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought  
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels  
food and priest - ly meat; On sin - parched lips the



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.  
sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.  
hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.  
chal - ice pours His quench - ing blood that life re - stores.

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## RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper, also known as Holy Communion or the Eucharist, is celebrated at Epiphany Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord Jesus Christ gives us His very body and blood "in, with, and under" the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins, and to strengthen our unity with Christ and our Christian brothers and sisters. Our Lord invites to His table those baptized Christians who trust His Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive others as He loves and forgives us. Scripture urges us to examine our conscience and belief about Holy Communion before we partake of the Supper (1 Cor. 11:28). Because those who partake of the Lord's Supper unworthily do so to their great harm, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder. For further study, see Matthew 26:26-29; 5:23-26; 18:15-35; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:17-34.

Children and uninstructed youth and adults may receive a blessing by crossing their arms over their chest, which is known as the sign of St. Andrew's cross.

White grape juice and gluten free Communion wafers are available for those with alcohol sensitivity or gluten intolerance.

# DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

## "Joy to the World"

LSB 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.

Text and tune: Public domain

## "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

LSB 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
 Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
 And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text and tune: Public domain

## \*POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Pastor:** Let us pray. Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away fleshly lusts, that they be ready for Your visitation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*(4:00 pm and 6:00 pm services continue here)*

## \*THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES *1 John 1:5-7; Matthew 5:14-16*

*The pastor takes the light from the Christ candle to the acolytes and assisting ministers. They pass the light on to the congregation.*

**Pastor:** As the light of these candles illumines our faces, it symbolizes the light of Christ, the Child in the manger at Bethlehem, the Savior suffering our death on the cross and soon to come from His throne on high as Judge of all. He is our light here on earth and the eternal light who enlightens heaven, where there is no need of candle or sun. Rejoice, for the Light of the world has come, who transforms us with the brightness of His glory.

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.

**People: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.**

**Pastor:** But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

**People:** and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**Pastor:** You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

O God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

*(2:00 pm service continues here)*

**\*HYMN**

*"Silent Night, Holy Night"*

LSB 363



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - dian



vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In-fant, so ten-der and mild,  
stream from heav-en a - far, Heav'n-ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
beams from Thy ho-ly face With the dawn of re-deem - ing grace,



Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

4. Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!  
Alles schläft, einsam wacht  
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.  
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,  
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

## **\*BENEDICTION**

Pastor: 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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: **Amen.**

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