

Lord of Lords

Morning Star

Lord

Alpha and Omega

Great High Priest

MESSIAH

Jesus

Holy One

SON OF MAN

The Word

The True

Wonderful Counselor

Good Shepherd

Messiah

King

Savior

King of Kings

Immanuel



Morning Star

Christ

Holy

Prince of Peace

DAYS

Good Shepherd

GATHERING – We come to worship and to be reminded of God’s mercy, love, and grace

***The Lighting of the Christ Candle**

R: A light has dawned, and it fills the earth. God is doing a new thing.

C: We are invited into the light to embrace the new life God shows us.

R: We go to Bethlehem to see the embodiment of God’s grace. We go to experience God’s love in human form.

C: We must go in order to see for ourselves. The light of the world beckons to us.

R: Rejoice and be glad for the possibilities of this good news!

C: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among all whom God favors!

P: Let us pray. Gracious God,

C: We are startled and surprised by the many ways you appear to us. Like the shepherds, may we hasten to see the ways you are making all things new, and may we be inspired to rejoice and proclaim the good news you share with us: unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, who is Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

ELW #282

THE WORD – We are reminded of what God calls us to do and what God has done for us

The Word for Kids

Reading: Luke 2:1-5

Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem” ELW #279 (v. 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.

Reading: Luke 2:6-7

Hymn “Away in a Manger” ELW #277 (v. 1, 2)

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

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.

Reading: Luke 2:8-14

Hymn “Angels We Have Heard on High” ELW #289 (v. 1, 2)

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!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav’nly song? (Refrain)

Reading: Luke 2:15-20

Hymn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

ELW #270

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

Joyful, all you nation 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!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! (Refrain)

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)

Sermon

Christmas Eve Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ELW #283

Prayers of the People

Each prayer ends, P: Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

THE OFFERING – We offer our gifts, returning to God what has been entrusted to us

The Offering

***Offertory Hymn**

"Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

ELW #275 (v. 1 & 4)

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king!

All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three-in-One. (Refrain)

***Offertory Prayer**

P: Let us pray. Loving God, **C: we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others, that all people, with the whole creation would receive with joy the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION – We come in faith to receive the gift of Christ’s body and blood for us

***The Words of Institution**

***The 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; 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.

The Meal

All are welcome to the Lord’s Table. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available, if that is your preference. Communion will be served continuously by intinction this evening.

During communion, you are invited to sing the following hymns:

“What Child is This” ELW #296
“Go Tell It on the Mountain” ELW #290
“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve” ELW #271

***Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer**

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, **C: With our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your word take hold in our lives, that we may be your people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Vigil of Christmas

A vigil is a time of keeping watch. Tonight, we watch and wait for the birth of Christ.

Hymn of Light

“Silent Night, Holy Night” ELW #281

SENDING – Assured of God’s grace, we are sent out in faith to love and serve our neighbor

***Blessing**

***Sending Hymn**

“Joy to the World” ELW #267

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. God is with you!

C: Thanks be to God!

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Thank you to Our Worship Participants:

Pastor: Ryan Jerome

Music Leader: Sonya Albertson &
Jan Hird

Ushers: The Just Family



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God’s work. Our hands.

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