

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Pastor Joe Johnson

PRELUDE *Special Music: Randy and Anna Lemm*

READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

OPENING HYMN **O Come, All Ye Faithful**

ELW 283 V. 1-2

- 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: 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! O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

OPENING DIALOG

Leader: We have walked in the darkness and now have seen a great light.

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Leader: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

All: We have beheld Christ's glory; glory as of the only Son from the Father.

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

All: In him was life, and the life was the light of all.

Leader: Glory to God in the Highest,

All: And peace to God's people on earth.

HYMN ***I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve***

ELW 271 V. 1

*I am so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and angels sang on earth.*

*Jeg er sa glad hver julekveld, ti da blev Jesus fodt;
Da lyste stjernen som en sol, og engler sang sa sodt.*

READING: Luke 2:1-5

HYMN **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!*

READING: Luke 2:6-7

HYMN *Away in a Manger*

ELW 277 V. 1-2

1. *Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.*

2. *The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, 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

1. *Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Glo...ria in excelsis Deo; glo...ria in excelsis Deo..*

2. *Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? Glo...ria in excelsis Deo; glo...ria in excelsis Deo.*

READING: Luke 2:15-20

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

HYMN *Love Has Come*

ELW 292

1. *Love has come- a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.*

2. *Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.*

3. *Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!*

CHRISTMAS OFFERING *Special Music: Bradley Almquist*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *ELW p. 154*

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Distribution Hymns: *ELW 270, 282 V.1-2, 296, 300 V.1-3* (words are printed on insert)

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

SPECIAL MUSIC: "O Holy Night" Anna Lemm, Bailey Baesler, Shayla Fossum

HYMN *Silent Night* **ELW 281** (Mike Miller, Violinist)

- 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.*

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

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 only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

CANDLES ARE EXTINGUISHED

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN *Joy to the World* **ELW 267 V. 1-2,4**

- 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.*
- 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.*

POSTLUDE