

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve Worship ~ 10:00, 2:00 and 4:00



VISION: Be the body of Christ: welcoming all,
inspired by God and sent out to live our Faith.
MISSION: Led by the Spirit to share God's grace.

Today's Worship Broadcast is in honor of Merry Jo Ball on her 90th Birthday!

PRELUDE MUSIC *Introduction et variations sur un ancien noël polonaise* by Alexandre Guilmant (Op. 60, Book 2, No 1)

WELCOME

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OPENING SONG *O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL* stz 1, 3, 4

CHRISTMAS LITANY, LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE
based on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "*God is in the Manger*"

L: Mighty God is the name of this child.

C: The child in the manger is God: God became a child!

L: In the Jesus child of Mary lives the almighty God.

C: Wait a minute! Don't speak! Stop thinking! Stand still before this statement!

L: God became a child! Here he is, poor like us, miserable and helpless like us, a person of flesh and blood like us, our brother.

C: And yet he is still God. His might is the divine love in which he became like us.

L: His poverty in the manger is his strength. He overcomes the gap between God and humanity and overcomes sin and death.

C: He forgives sin and awakens from the dead.

L: Kneel down before his manger and before this child of poor people and repeat in faith the words:

C: Mighty God! You are our God; you are our strength!

L: And the word became flesh and lived among us and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth. **Amen**

KYRIE ELW #292 *LOVE HAS COME* stz 1

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW #274 *ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT* stz1

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray,

C: Almighty God, you make this holy day shine with the brightness of the true Light in the manger. 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 Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER LAB MINUTE WITH DEACON NINA

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Light of the World"* Worship Band

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

R: A Gospel reading from the 2nd chapter of Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 2:1-20

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE Pastor John Klawiter

SONG OF THE DAY ELW #300 *THE FIRST NOEL* stz 1, 2, 4

MUSICAL OFFERING

10 am "*Gloria*" by Antonio Vivaldi; Faith Choir; Kelly Lehr, violin
2 pm "*Silent is the Night*" by Jay Althouse; Treble Ensemble
4 pm "*In the Bleak Midwinter*" ELW #294 arr. Mark Schweizer
Bells of Faith



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boxes by the exit doors. Thank you for
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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

L: The shepherds sing, "Jesus Christ is born!" Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Joy to the World. **C: The LORD is come.**

L: The angels sing, "Peace on earth!" Inspire leaders of nations to seek lasting peace and sustainable provision for all in their care. Joy to the World. **C: The LORD is come.**

L: Mary sings melodies of comfort to her newborn child. Bring rest and reassurance to those facing struggles this night. Shelter travelers and those without homes. Heal those who are sick or hurting. Joy to the World. **C: The LORD is come.**

L: The heavenly chorus sings, "Glory to God in the highest!" We give you thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed your glory in word and deed. Joy to the World.

C: The LORD is come.

L: God of mercy, provide us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of the newborn Christ, born this day, Jesus. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *You are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive communion.*

COMMUNION CAROLS

ELW #296 *WHAT CHILD IS THIS* stz 1

ELW #279 *O LITTLE CHILD OF BETHLEHEM*

led by Worship Band

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ELW #277 *AWAY IN A MANGER* stz 1, 2

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you, The LORD look upon you with favor, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONGS

ELW #281 *SILENT NIGHT* led by Worship Band

ELW #267 *JOY TO THE WORLD* stz 1, 2, 4

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE on *Adeste Fideles* (ELW #257) by Michael Burkhardt

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