



Bethlehem Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

8:30 AM Livestream Service

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

L: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

C: The Light no darkness can overcome.

L: We gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

C: With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven."

L: In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

C: With the shepherds, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.

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

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

L: May the grace and truth of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

GATHERING CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful – ELW 283 vs. 1 & 3



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Glo - ry to God in . . . the . . . high - est:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

PRAYER OF CHRISTMAS

L: Let us pray ... Gracious Lord,

C: The coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. May we share with others the simple joy of the shepherds, the praise of the angels, and the love of the Holy Family. May the holy child of Bethlehem be born in us on this, and every day. Amen.

CAROL**O Little Town of Bethlehem – ELW 279 vs. 1 & 4**

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 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;
 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.
 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.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

READING

Luke 2: 1-12

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

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

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

CAROL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing – ELW 270 vs. 1 & 3



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born king;
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.”
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king!”

READING

Luke 2:13-20

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SERMON

Pastor Laura Ziehl

CAROL OF CHRISTMAS

Love Has Come – ELW 292 vs. 1 & 3



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

CHRISTMAS PEACE

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Hallelujah Chorus – Good News Singers

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

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; 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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve

ELW 271 vs. 1 & 2



Jeg er så glad hver ju - le - kveld, ti da blev Je - sus født;

1 I am so glad each Christ-mas Eve, the night of Je - sus' birth!

2 The lit - tle child in Beth - le - hem, he was a king in - deed!



da lys - te stjer - nen som en sol, og eng - ler sang så sødt.

Then like the sun the star shone forth, and an - gels sang on earth.

For he came down from heav'n a - bove to help a world in need.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CAROL OF LIGHT

Silent Night - ELW 281



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

BLESSING

L: May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life. May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength. May the Word that the angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world. And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you this day and always.

C: Amen

SENDING CAROL

Joy to the World - ELW 267



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions 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.

DISMISSAL L: Go in peace. The Savior is Born!

C: Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“**Love Has Come**” - Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950, © 1996 LNWHymns; Tune UN
FLAMBEAU: F. Seguin, *Recueil de noels composes en langue provencale, 1856*, © 2003
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Debi Carr – Full Day Preschool Director

Kelly Perez – Half Day Preschool Director

Office Administrator

Judy Foland

Music Ministries

Mona Goetsch – Director

Judy Collier – Pianist/Organist

Ministries & Programs

Laure Reynolds – Stephen Ministry

Rose Moldenhauer – Parish Nurse

All Are Welcome!

We live in a diverse world. We are hurting, broken and heavy hearted. We are loving, celebrating, and above all — we are welcoming. Regardless of the color of your skin or the color of your hair, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, relationship status, or political affiliation — you are welcome here.

If you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker after Christ — you have a place here.

If you own, rent, or have nothing at all — you are welcome here.

If you are fully abled, disabled, or a person of differing abilities, if you have regrets, fears, addictions, or afflictions — you have a place here.

All who are wise and all who are confused, all who have found love and all who have lost it, all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it — are welcome here.

For these are all of the things that make you who you are: the person God loves. Come as you are and be celebrated for who you are. The time is now. Your place is here. Bethlehem Lutheran Church is an all-inclusive church.

**The Mission of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is
to announce boldly the love of God through Christ.**



Reconciling in Christ



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Center

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