



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Center**



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2021

10:00 AM | 6:00 PM | 8:00 PM

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

L: May the love of the newborn Christ surround you and release you in compassion and care for others.

L: May the joy of the Holy Family enrich you in your travelling through life, and in your discoveries.

L: May the hope of the baby of Bethlehem direct you through farewells, and into new beginnings.

L: May the insight of the Carpenter from Nazareth challenge you in your struggles, and in your complacency.

L: And may the Peace of the risen Christ empower you in your hearts, in your homes, and in all your longings.

L: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you, your families and all in the family of God's creation.

L: Now, throughout this Christmastime, and forevermore. Amen.

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 Sam Nelson

CAROL OF CHRISTMAS

What Child is This – ELW 296 vs. 1 & 3



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

CHRISTMAS PEACE

OFFERTORY MUSIC

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 vs. 1, 2, & 4



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!



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Center

Electronic Giving Options Update

- Our Give Plus+ App has been replaced by **Vanco Mobile App!** **Vanco Mobile App** will be your new mobile means of financially supporting Bethlehem. To begin using it:
 - Download the “**Vanco Mobile**” app from your App Store using your smartphone or tablet
 - Search for Bethlehem Lutheran Church **Encinitas** by name
 - If you already have an account, your Username and Password remain the same. And your prior online account information and recurring gifts will automatically carry over
 - If you don’t have an account, follow the app’s “Sign Up” prompts
- BLC Website
 - Go to BLCENC.org and select the “Contribute” tab from the top menu as before
 - Click the “Give Now” button to go to our new and improved Vanco Online page.

- With either option you can:
 - Use a checking account, or credit & debit cards
 - Choose to cover the credit card transaction fee
 - Make recurring, or one-time donations
 - Give to the general or various special funds
 - All donations appear on your giving statements

Thank You for Supporting Bethlehem!

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.



Reconciling in Christ



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Offering gifts can be made electronically, either on our website at www.blcenc.org by clicking on the contribute tab, or by using the **Vanco Mobile App**. There are options for one-time donations, as well as recurring gifts and special offerings.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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PHOTO APPENDIX

