



## Christmas Eve

### *Introduction*

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

*Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
Candlelight Service of Holy Communion  
December 24, 2025, 7:00 P.M.*

***All are welcome here***  
*All people of faith, All people of doubt*  
*All people of any origin, race, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression*  
*All people who seek a compassionate community*

***All are welcome here***  
*Welcome to worship, Welcome to pray*  
*Welcome to learn, Welcome to give thanks*  
*Welcome to serve God and neighbors*

***All are welcome here***  
*All are redeemed by a gracious God*



***Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Pastor Randy Schroeder***  
***300 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette, 743-2931 [www.osluth.org](http://www.osluth.org)***

***Purdue Lutheran Ministry, Pastor Kristin Rice***  
***330 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette, 743-2398 [www.plm.org](http://www.plm.org)***

## *The Gathering*

### ***Prelude Music***

*Joy to the World* (Clara Gearhart-trombone) (arranged by BC Dockery, 2020 BC Dockery)  
*Angels We Have Heard on High* (Beth Dana-organ) (setting by Michael Burkhardt, 1991 MorningStar Music Publishers)  
*The First Noel* (Krista Gearhart-piano) (arranged by Chris Rice, 2001 Clumsy Fly Music)  
*Still, Still Still* (Michaela Thompson-cello) setting by Daniel Burton, 2024 Birnamwood Publications)  
*I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve* (Reuben Peterson-vocal solo) (ELW 271, music by Peder Knudsen, 1932 Augsburg Publishing House)  
*How Far is It to Bethlehem* (Abigail Black, Julie Huetteman, Kathy Grogan-vocal trio) (arr. By John Ferguson, 1997 Augsburg Fortress)  
*We Three Kings* (Krista Gearhart and Julie Huetteman-piano duet) (arr. By Pattie Drennan, 2019 Hope Publishing Company)  
*Pat-a-Pan* (Andrew Richards-trumpet) (arr. By Lloyd Larson, 2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.)  
*Lully, Lullay, Thou Little Tine Child* (Julie Huetteman-piano) (setting by Jan Kraybill, 2025 Augsburg Fortress)  
*Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella* (Beth Dana-organ) (setting by Lyle K. Neff, 2009 Augsburg Fortress)  
*Pastorale on Away in a Manger* (Beth Dana-organ) (setting by Karl Osterlund, 1998 Augsburg Fortress)  
*Lo, How a Rose E-er Blooming* (Choir) (ELW, 2006 Augsburg Fortress; setting by Bradley Ellingboe, 2010 Augsburg Fortress)

## *Candlelight Service for Christmas Eve Scripture, Carols, and Communion*

### *Welcome*

P The angel said to the shepherds, “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 Christ, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

P As we gather, we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God’s love has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem’s manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

### *Lighting of the Advent Wreath*

P We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ’s advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C **Amen.**

### *The Word*

#### Reading - The Prophecy of the Messiah

L Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

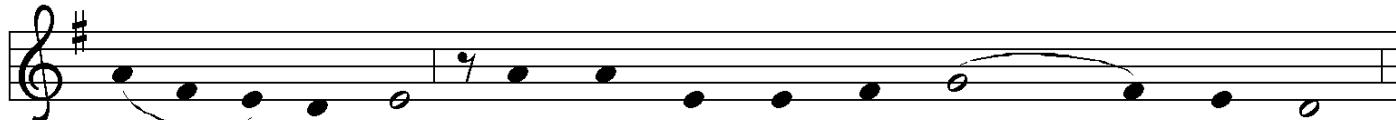
<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Congregational Carol: ELW (red), hymn 257: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs. 1, 4, 5)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - - - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - - - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - - - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - - - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - - - u - el shall come to you, O Is - - - ra - el.

5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heav'ly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

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P John 1:1-2, 4-5

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

C Everlasting Savior, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God,  
 Emmanuel -God with us.

## Reading - The Coming of Jesus Is Announced to Mary and Joseph

L Luke 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

**No Wind at the Window (Abigail Black-Solo)** (ACS, hymn 906, arr. By Charles Callihan, 2015  
Birnamwood Publications)

P Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

**Choir Anthem: Yes! A Carol for Christmas** (by Wayne L. Wold, 2022 Augsburg Fortress)

## Reading - The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus

P Luke 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

<sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>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.

**Congregational Carol: ELW (red), hymn 269: *Once in Royal David's City* (vs. 1 Solo by Abigail Black & All 2-4)**



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,  
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem-ing love;  
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand-ing by,



where a moth-er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
and his shel-ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
with the poor and meek and low-ly, lived on earth our Sav-ior ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

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## Children's Bell Choir: *O Come Little Children*

1. Oh, come, little children, oh, come, one and all,  
To Bethlehem's stable, in Bethlehem's stall.  
And see with rejoicing this glorious sight,  
Our Father in heaven has sent us this night.
2. Oh, see in the manger, in hallowed light  
A star throws its beam on this glorious sight.  
In clean swaddling clothes lies the heavenly Child,  
More lovely than angels, this Baby so mild.

## Reading - Jesus' Birth is Announced to the Shepherds

L Luke 2:8-14

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>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: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

## Congregational Carol: ELW (red), hymn 270: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"	3 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. <i>Refrain</i>
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### *Refrain*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

- 2 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*

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt

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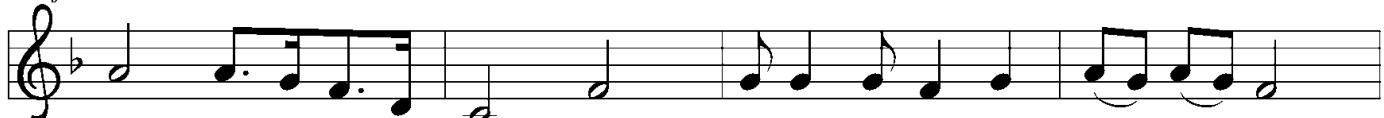
## Reading - The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus

P Luke 2:15-18

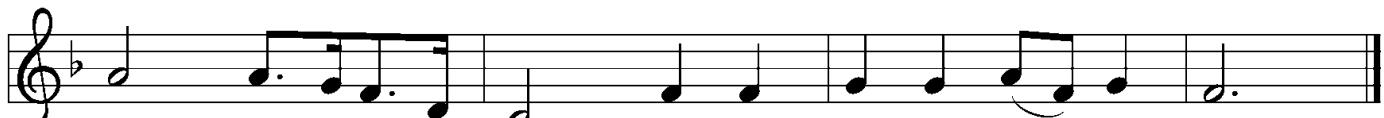
<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

## Congregational Carol: ELW (red), hymn 290: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

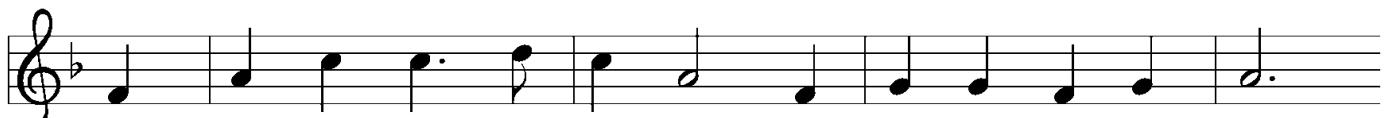
*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

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## Reading - The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts to Jesus

L Matthew 2:1-11

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup> When King Herod

heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.””

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**Offering Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 296: *What Child Is This***  
(While the congregation sings, Ushers distribute offering plates.)



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - 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?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - 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;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
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!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

P And so it came to pass that the word of the birth of the Christ Child spread throughout the region. People rejoiced that the promise had been kept, and they believed. There were some who could not understand the power of deliverance through love, and they wondered how this tiny child could indeed be the promised miracle, Savior and king, the Prince of Peace.

### ***Confession and Forgiveness***

P Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\dagger$  one God,  
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God-with-us,

C **we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.**

**Amen.**

P Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,  
 $\dagger$  forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

C **Amen.**

### ***Words of Institution***

P The Lord is with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Life is a gift and we are to celebrate it.

C **May we rejoice in the beauty of this special time.**

P Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your beloved children.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Abba, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy creation, both now and forever.

**C The mystery hidden for the ages is revealed for us in this meal. Amen.**

**P Come, behold and receive your God.**

*Please be seated.*

### ***Distribution***

**For today's distribution of Holy Communion, after the Invitation to the Table, the presiding pastor will invite the worship assistants (lector, assisting minister, usher) to commune behind the altar. The presiding pastor will then commune those worshiping online and those in the sanctuary who wish to commune in their pews. Then the presiding pastor will commune those who wish to come up to the altar. All are celebrated here!**

**Congregational Carol: ELW (red), hymn 277: *Away in a Manger***

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

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### **Congregational Carol: ELW 279: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (vs. 1-3)**

- 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.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

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### **Congregational Carol: ELW 282: *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* (vs. 1-2)**

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
from heav'n's all-gracious king."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heav'nly music floats  
o'er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hov'ring wing,  
and ever o'er its babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876

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*Please stand as you are able.*

### ***Prayer after Communion***

P Let us pray,

C We are filled with joy for we have heard good news of great joy.  
We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God's great love.  
We are filled with hope for the angels still sing in our world  
and there is a Love for us to follow.  
We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life,  
you give us food for our journey.  
As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy family home again,  
guide us on the way unfolding before us.  
Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim  
good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ***Candle Lighting***

*(Pastor Randy takes a large candle, lights it from the Christ Candle, which symbolizes Christ, the light of the world.)*

P A reading from John 1.

*(Pastor Randy lights the candle from the Christ Candle and then passes it to the ushers' candles, then reads the following while the congregation lights their candles from the ushers.)*

P <sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a group sent from God, who was known as the church. <sup>7</sup> They came as witnesses to testify to the light, so that all might believe through them. <sup>8</sup> They themselves were not the light, but they came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## ***The Lord's Prayer***

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C **Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,  
    your kingdom come,  
    your will be done,  
        on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

## Congregational Carol: ELW (red), hymn 281: *Silent Night, Holy Night!*

- 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 your holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885  
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*Please extinguish your candle when the Pastor extinguishes his.*

P As we go from this place, we take the joy of the promise of God's salvation with us; we sing the praise of the angel's song, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all." Go tell the story from ages past, the promised Holy Child has come at last. For unto us is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

### ***Closing Prayer and Benediction***

P Let us pray. Almighty God and Creator of love, a child is born for us and a son is given to us. Your eternal Word leaped down from heaven in the silent watches of the night, and now your Church is filled with wonder and love at the nearness of our God. Open our hearts to receive his life and increase our vision with the rising of the dawn, that our lives may be filled with his glory and his peace; who lives and reigns forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

P The God of love, who delights in you,  
Jesus the Savior who is born for you,  
and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you,  
+ bless you, lavish you with grace,  
illumine your path,  
and increase your joy,  
today and always.

C **Amen.**

## Congregational Carol: ELW (red), Hymn 283: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

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:

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
in the highest: *Refrain*

### *Refrain*

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

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! *Refrain*

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2

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P Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*Fantasy* (by Richard Hudson, tune: *Il est né, le Divin Enfant*; French Carol, 1824 ; setting: 1976 Augsburg Publishing House)

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## **Offering**

Please feel free to send your regular tithe in the mail, drop it off to the church office or if you have not checked out our website and the "Your Offering Made Easy" tab, this could be your opportunity. (Ted Heise is available to answer any questions about the Tithe.ly Online giving option. His email address is [theise@panix.com](mailto:theise@panix.com))



**Our sanctuary is served by a hearing loop.** Wearers of hearing aids should turn their aids to the setting marked T, or T-coil, or Telephone.

**Worship Assistants:** Kathy Grogan (Lector), Clara Gearhart, Bob Nielsen, River Thompson, Missy Schroeder, Carl Huetteman (Nativity Participants), Mike Dana and Missy Schroeder (Communion Assistants), John & Vicki Mills (Ushers), Michael Williams (A/V & Livestream Specialist), Jesse Grogan (Live Streaming Assistant)

**Special Music:** Beth Dana, Julie Huetteman, Abigail Black, Adult Choir, Children's Bell Choir, Krista Gearhart, Clara Gearhart, Michaela Thompson, Reuben Peterson, Kathy Grogan, Andrew Richards (Musicians/Vocal)

**Poinsettia Adopted By:** Marcia Daehler, Mike and Beth Dana, Wes and Krista Gearhart, Jesse and Kathy Grogan, Carl and Julie Huetteman, Jack and Mary Johnson, Pam Miller and Bob Pierce, Renee Meunier, John and Vicki Mills, Pr. Randy and Missy Schroeder, Herm and Laurie Snyder

**Thanks to all who adopted poinsettias for the altar area!**







## About Our Nave

Against the north wall is the Tree of Life, designed by the late liturgical designer Charles Pohlmann and constructed in 1996 by then-OSLC member Ted Marshall. The processional cross was given to OSLC in memory of Jennie Dana. Many of our paraments were designed and hand-woven by OSLC member Bea Stromberg. The west wall is lined with seven wood carvings depicting the life of Christ commissioned from the late Nigerian carver Lamidi Fakeye. At the center of the nave stands a marble baptismal font, a gift from members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The prints of paintings on the east wall are by nationally known liturgical artist He Qi. The center piece is given by the Church Council in honor of Sam Rasmy for his long-time service as Financial Secretary of OSLC. The Last Supper, by Guatemalan artist Angelina Quic Ixtamer, was purchased by the 2014 Guatemala Mission Team. The OSLC logo was redesigned in 2022 with elements reflecting the unique architecture of the sanctuary, the 2019 addition of the south stained-glass window, our affiliation with the ELCA, and the eternal presence of our Lord and Saviour.

References to the Tree of Life are found in both the Old and New Testaments. It has both literal and symbolic meaning for Christians: it is the literal tree of life in Genesis, and in Revelation it represents everlasting life granted to those who display fruits of the spirit and of righteousness aligned with God's principles.

### **Our Saviour's Vision, Mission, and Values (October 4, 2018)**

**Vision** *God calls us to be a community of discipleship for all, making Christ's love real in our daily lives.*

**Mission** *Grow in faith and Christian calling  
Love and serve God and neighbor  
Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

**Values** *Centered in liturgical worship  
Outreach to campus and partnership with Purdue Lutheran Ministry  
Education and mentoring for all ages  
Responsible stewardship of resources  
Care, compassion and service in the local and global community*