

Christmas Eve Candlelight

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Parkers Prairie

HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

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;

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

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

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the \times Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *John 1:14; Psalm 96:3; Psalm 98:1*

P And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

C and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son
from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P Declare His glory among the nations,

C His marvelous works among all the peoples!

P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous
things!

C His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation
for Him.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P We give thanks for the eternal peace our Savior, the Prince of
Peace, won, becoming one of us and dying for us. We must
confess that we do not see much peace in the world, and we
know that we have not been at peace personally. Let us
therefore confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

C I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

P By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

C Amen.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light.

C Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven;

P through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives And reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7*

P A reading from Isaiah, the ninth chapter.

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

C For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;

**and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
and His name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P Of the increase of His government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over His kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO **“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt”** (LSB 369)

SECOND READING *Micah 5:2-5a*

A reading from Micah, the fifth chapter.

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of
the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

⁵And he shall be their peace.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

READING *Luke 2:1–5*

- P** In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

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.

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!

READING *Luke 2:6–7*

- P** And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

HYMN “Away in a Manger”

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

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.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

READING *Luke 2:8–12*

P And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

HYMN **“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”**

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

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 the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

READING *Luke 2:13–16*

P And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!” When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

HYMN **“Angels We Have Heard on High”**

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

READING *Luke 2:17–20*

- ☐ And when [the shepherds] saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

HYMN **“The People That In Darkness Sat”**

The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.

To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored, The God by all adored.

His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.

SERMON **“Prince of Peace”** **Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7**

HYMN **“What Child Is This”**

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98

OFFERING

(Please sign the attendance register during the offering. It is in a burgundy folder in your pew. You can help the ushers by tearing the sheet out and leaving it sticking out of the folder after everyone has signed.)

APOSTLES' CREED

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for God's great mercy, asking that He would hear our petitions and grant them according to His gracious will.

Almighty and everlasting God, as we recall the first Christmas, we thank You for the gift of Jesus Christ, who came to earth in deep humility. We bless You that there was room in Your heart for the people of earth and for the sacrifice of Jesus as He left the glory of Your eternal kingdom in coming to earth to be our Savior, our Brother and our Friend. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P As we think of Your chosen servants Mary and Joseph, we thank You for the gift of family. Grant that we always treasure the gifts we receive through them and seek to be those who cherish our family, our church family, our friends, and our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P As we hear again of the shepherds to whom the angel brought the greatest of news, we thank You for those who serve in the various vocations of life, including those whose daily work goes unnoticed or underappreciated. We commend to Your special care, Lord, those in the military, our first responders and medical personnel, and all whose service keeps them distanced from their family homes in these days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for all situations and conditions of people, especially those on our hearts at this time [*including* . . .]. Be with all who need our petitions and our concern. Bless them according to their needs, Lord, and give us opportunities to

be of comfort and assistance in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P As we pray, gracious God, we remember our dear ones who have completed their earthly lives and now are in Your eternal keeping. Grant that we follow their footsteps in ways of peace and love throughout our lives as we live to Your glory as those on whom Your favor rests. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P These and any other things You would have us ask of You, Heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

C **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.**

Solo - 1st verse of Silent Night – in German as candles are lit.
(Tip the unlit candle and hold the lit candle straight.)

HYMN **“Silent Night, Holy Night”**

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.

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!

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.

BENEDICTION

P The blessing of God Almighty—the Father, who gave His Son to redeem the world; the Son, who has revealed to us God’s grace, mercy, and love; and the Holy Spirit, by whose blessed work in us we live our lives as children of God—be and remain with you, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

HYMN “Joy to the World”

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.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

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Special Thanks to our musicians Maureen Diedrich, Gloria Hollatz, Sophia Schefe, Riley Springer and Charlene Staples.

We want every member of Immanuel to be included in our new picture directory. Sign up today at the narthex counter or signup online at ucdir.com. Church Code: MN528 Password: photos
Pictures will be taken December 27, 28 and 30 as well as a day or two in January yet to be scheduled.

Christmas Day Service of Carols and Communion is at 9 AM.

New Years Eve Service with Communion is at 7 PM.