

The Lord Is Come A Service for Christmas Eve



Order of Service

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. Luke 2:7

Prelude

Sarah Lampitt

Invocation and Call to Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C For unto us a Son is given.

P To us a Son is born.

C And the government shall be upon his shoulder.

P And his name shall be called—

C Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God.

P Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

C Let us worship the newborn King!

Opening Hymn “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LSB 367

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story,
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth. Refrain

ref Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain

4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. Refrain

STAND 5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the_ eternal Three in One. Refrain

Confession and Forgiveness

P Heavenly Father, through your Son Jesus, you invite us to lay down
our great fears and enter into your great joy.

C But instead we often fasten on to our fears.

P We wallow in our worries.

C We drown in our depression.

P We suffer in our sin.

C **We forfeit your forgiveness.**

P We get lost in our grudges.

C **We refuse your joy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

You are invited to meditate on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.

P With great love and mercy the angel says, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2:10). On the cross, Jesus carried your sin and shame and rising again he defeated every enemy. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

C **Let us worship the newborn King!**

Prayer of the Day

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

HYMN OF PRAISE "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

LSB 361

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.
- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶For 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.
⁷Of 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.**

Carol

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LSB 380

1 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!” Refrain

ref 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 the_incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! Refrain

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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. Refrain

Epistle

Philippians 3:20-21

²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

P Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

C When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son.
Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Please rise as you are able

Luke 2:1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. 2 (*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*) 3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the

heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. 16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. 17 And when they had seen *it*, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. 18 And all they that heard *it* wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. 19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered *them* in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Kids' Time

Sermon Hymn

“From Heave Above to Earth I Come”

LSB 358

vv 1,2,3,8,13,15

- 1 “From heav’n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev’ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:
- 2 “To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery
That You might share Your joy with me.

13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.

15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

Sermon

Offering

Prayers

P With great joy, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the joy from above that radiates Christ's love into our hearts
and homes; let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the angel's message, "Fear not," that banishes all anxiety and
worry; let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Christmas Gospel, for it to be preached in every church and
throughout the world—to one and all; let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

The Lighting of the Candles

[As the hymn is sung, the Pastor will light the candles of the ushers, who light the candles of people sitting by the aisles, who in turn light those next to them, tipping unlit candles toward lit ones. Lights may be extinguished as the candlelight increases.]

(Please tip only your unlit candle to receive the flame.)

HYMN

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

LSB 363

CHIOR 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 Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Benediction

P May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the Magi and the peace of the Christ Child. And may the Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forevermore!

C **Let us worship the newborn King!**

You May Extinguish Your Candles

Have a Blessed & Mighty Christmas Celebrating the Birth of the Christ-Child.

Join Us for worship -Christmas Day @ 10 am with Holy Communion

Many thanks and praise to the LORD for all who helped out this evening using their God given gifts in worship to the Christ-child. Many combined hours and talent were exercised on the front lines and behind the scenes to edify our worship this evening. Again, thank you for all your talents and time.