

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Jackson, Minnesota

The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023 6:30 PM



Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Hymn "O Come, All Ye faithful" **379**

Confession and Absolution **184-5**

Introit **Ps. 24:1, 3-5; antiphon: Ps. 2:7**

P I will tell of the decree:

C The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

P The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,

C the world and those who dwell therein,

P Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

C And who shall stand in his holy place?

P He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

C who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

P He will receive blessing from the LORD

C and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P I will tell of the decree:

C The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis **186-189**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you. **C** (*sung*) And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C (*sung*) Amen.

Hymn

“Angels from the Realms of Glory” 367 vv. 1, 2

**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***

**Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

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

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14 ESV

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Hymn

"Angels from the Realms of Glory" 367 vv. 3, 4

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

**Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

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

Epistle

1 John 4:7-16 ESV

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved

God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

[P] This is the Word of the Lord. **[C]** **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn “Angels from the Realms of Glory” **367 v. 5**

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

Refrain: **Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

Alleluia

190

Holy Gospel

St. Matthew 1:18-25 **ESV**

[P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

[C] *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C *(sung)* Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed 191

Hymn "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" 359

Sermon St. Matthew 1:18-25
"The Peace That Passes Understanding"

Offering

Hymn "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" 380

Prayer of the Church

Each petition concludes:

P . . . Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Final petition concludes:

P . . . for He lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Hymn "O Holy Night"

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,

It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.

Long lay the world in sin and error pining,

'Til He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!

O night divine, O night when Christ was born;

O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Truly He taught us to love one another;

His law is love and His gospel is peace.

Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;

And in His name all oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,

Let all within us praise His holy name.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!

O night divine, O night when Christ was born;

O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Lighting of Candles

Lord's Prayer

Salutation, Benedicamus, and Benediction

201-202

P The Lord be with you.

C *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

P Bless we the Lord.

C *(sung)* **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C *(sung)* **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Hymn

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

Adult Choir: *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das heilige Elternpaar,
Das im Stalle zu Bethlehem war,
Bei dem himmlischen Kind,
Bei dem himmlischen Kind.*

Congregation: 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.

Postlude



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