

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church  
1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

7:00 & 10:00 p.m. Services

Christmas Eve

**Introduction to this Blessed Night:** 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.

✦ **Glory to the Newborn King!** ✦

Prelude

6:50

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* arr. Dan Forrest  
John Paradowski, Piano

*What Child Is This* Abigail and Robert Hughes

Bell Salutation & Carol

*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* – Righteous Ringers



1. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child low - ly in a man - ger;  
2. An - gels sang a - bout His birth; Wise men sought and found Him;



there He lay, the un - de - filed, to the world a stran - ger:  
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, glo - ry all a - round Him:



Such a Babe in such a place, can He be the Sav - ior?  
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, heard the an - gels sing - ing;



Ask the saved of all the race who have found His fa - vor.  
all the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ring - ing.

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859-1933. Music: A Spring Carol, c. 14<sup>th</sup> Century. Tune: Tempus Adest Floridum, 76 76 D.

Prelude

9:45

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* arr. by Dan Forrest  
John Paradowski, Piano

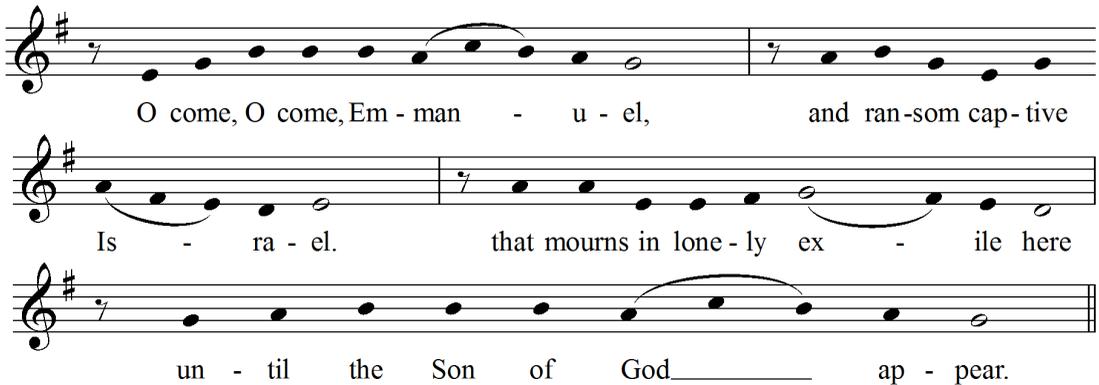
*God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen/Ding Dong Merrily on High* – Victoria Vorpapel, Flute

*Savior of the Nations, Come* arr. by Joshua Kramer  
Bells Angels

## ✧ O Come Let Us Adore Him ✧

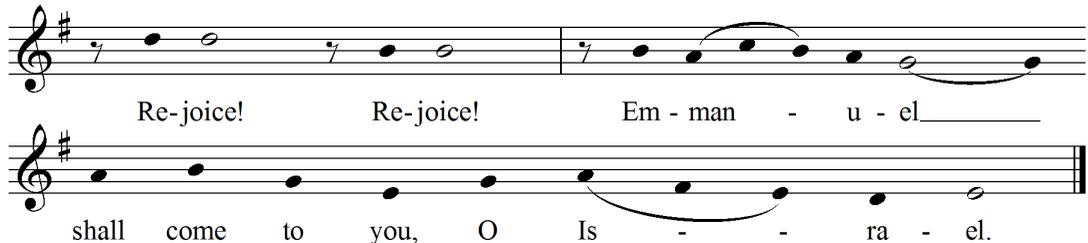
(Please stand as you are able and face the center Word symbol)

In the Beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. And God's Word said, "Let there be light," and there was light.



O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran-som cap-tive  
Is - ra - el. that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

In the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of the people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.



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

Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710. Tune: Veni Emmanuel 88 88 88. Music: French processional, 15<sup>th</sup> cent.

## Greeting

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

**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

Good news of great joy, light and grace and peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Processional Carol

## #283 O Come, All Ye Faithful

## Greeting

A child has been born for us, a son given to us.

**He is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

**For unto us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.**

And this shall be a sign for you:

**You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.**

And suddenly there was, with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host praising God  
and saying:

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!**

## Carol of Praise

## #289 Angels We Have Heard on High

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

Christmas Greeting

✧ In the Beginning Was the Word ✧

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

*This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!*

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 9.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

7:00

*Hark! The Glad Sound! The Savior Comes!*  
arr. by Susan Geschke – Righteous Ringers

10:00

*Sing/Ring We Now of Christmas* arr. by Lloyd Larson  
Bells Angels

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

*The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.*

A reading from Titus, chapter 2.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as you are able and face the center Word symbol)

Gospel Processional

#274 On Christmas Night [Stanzas 1 & 2]

1. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to hear the new\_\_ the  
 2. Then why should we on earth\_\_ be sad, since our re - deem - er

an - gels bring. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to  
 made us glad? Then why should we on earth\_\_ be sad, since

hear the news\_\_ the an - gels bring: news of great joy,\_\_ news  
 our re - deem - er made us glad, when from our sing\_\_ he

of\_\_ great mirth, news of our mer - ci - ful\_\_ king's birth.  
 set\_\_ us free, all for to gain our lib - er - ty?

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686. Music: English traditional. Tune: Sussex Carol.

Gospel

Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

In the beginning was the Word,

**And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

A reading from the book of Luke.

*God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Response

## #274 On Christmas Night [Stanzas 3 &amp; 4]

3. When sin de - parts be - fore his face, then life and health\_ come  
4. All out of dark - ness we\_ have light, which made the an - gels

in its place. When sin de - parts be - fore his face, then  
sing this night. All out of dark - ness we\_ have light, which

life and health\_ come in its place. An - gels re - joi - ce\_ with  
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God\_ in

us\_ and sing, all for to see the new - born king.  
high - est heav'n; peace on earth, and good - will.\_ A - men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686. Music: English traditional. Tune: Sussex Carol.

*(Please be seated)*

Sermon

7:00 Pastor Sheila Rawn

10:00 Pastor Ann Williams

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Carol of the Day

**#296 What Child Is This**

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,  
Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the  
Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### Prayers of Intercession

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

...Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you,  
confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

#### Sharing of Christmas Peace

At the birth of Christ the angels sang of peace and goodwill. May the peace of the Lord  
be with you always.

**And also with you.**

✧ And the Word was Made Flesh ✧

*Meal*

*(Please be seated)*

Musical Offering

7:00

*Go, Tell it on the Mountain* arr. by Victor C. Johnson  
New Creation & New Generation Choirs

10:00

*See Amid the Winter's Snow* arr. by Dan Forrest  
Senior Choir

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Offertory Carol

**#276 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. We celebrate this night the greatest gift the world has known, the gift of God's own beloved Son. Wrapped in flesh, swaddled in strips of cloth, your gift represents life, light and love. A gift beyond measure. What can we offer you, O God, except ourselves. Accept our gifts, this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

**Make yourself known to us, O Christ, in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.**

*(Please be seated)*

Communion Music

7:00

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing/Ring* arr. by Jason Krug  
Righteous Ringers

*Gesu Bambino Pietro Yon*, arr. Mark Hayes  
Drew Freeborn

*In the Bleak Mid-Winter* arr. Audrey Snyder  
New Generation Choir

**#300 The First Noel**

10:00

*Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* arr. by Howard Helvey  
Senior Choir, Julia Murphy & John Paradowski,  
4-Hand Piano

*Once in Royal David's City* arr. by Kevin McChesney  
Bells Angels

**#300 The First Noel**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in God's light and grace.

**Amen.**

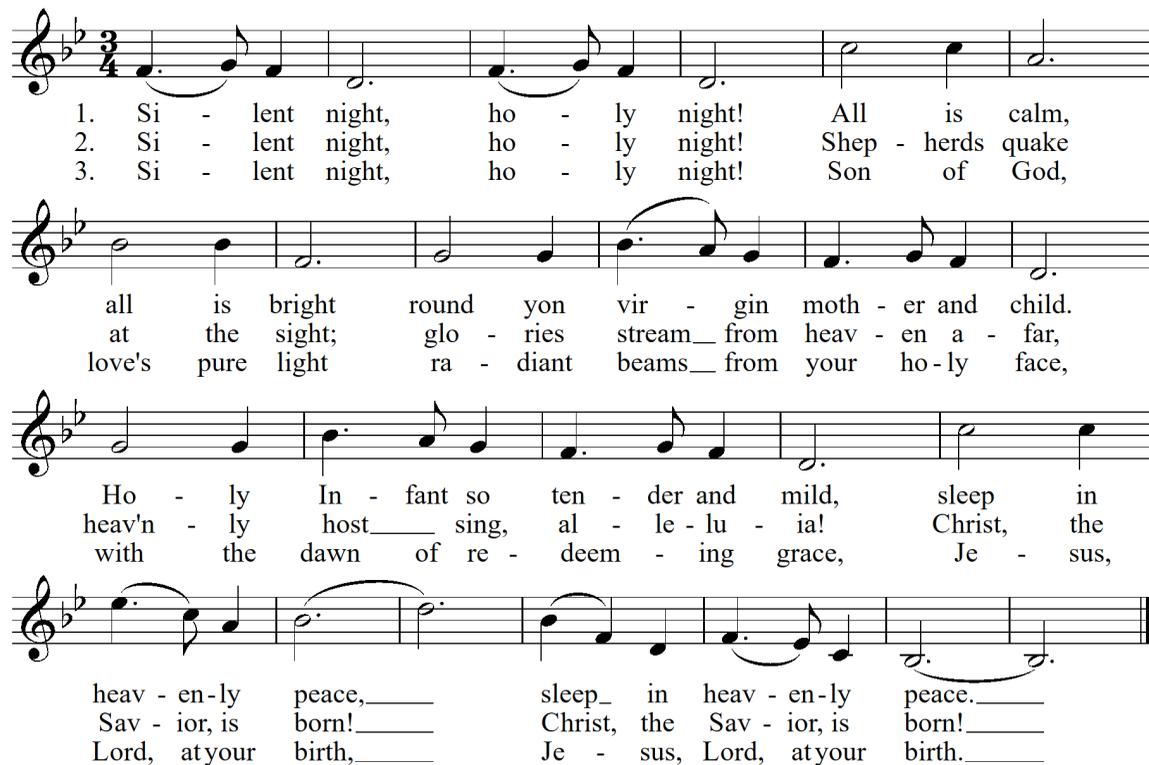
Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious light that spilled out on Bethlehem's hillsides shines at this table, in our midst, in our hearts. Here you repeat the mystery of your incarnation, here we see you face to face. We thank you and bless you for you are the Lord forevermore.

**Amen.**

## Carol

## #281 Silent Night



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,

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,

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, sleep in  
 heav'n - ly host\_ sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus,

heav - en - ly peace,\_\_\_\_\_ sleep\_ in heav - en - ly peace.\_\_\_\_\_  
 Sav - ior, is born!\_\_\_\_\_ Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!\_\_\_\_\_  
 Lord, at your birth,\_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.\_\_\_\_\_

Tune: Stille Nacht, Irr. Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863. Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885.

✧ And Dwelt Among Us ✧

## Benediction

May Christ, born of Mary; dwell in your hearts and lives this Christmas and always. May almighty God, the One who is and who was and who will be, the Word made flesh, the holy and life-giving Spirit, bless you and keep you now and forever. The blessings of God the almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

Recessional Carol

**#270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Dismissal

To us a Child is born!

**To us a Son is given!**

And his name shall be called...

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of JESUS, giving thanks to God the  
Father through him.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

Postlude

*Puer Nobis Nascitur-Unto Us Is Born a Son*  
by Aaron David Miller

✧ And of His Reign There Will Be No End ✧