



Jordan Evangelical Lutheran Church

**The Eve of the
Nativity of Our Lord
December 24, 2023**

**4:00 p.m. Family Service p. 1
7:00 p.m. Traditional Service p.4**

Our Mission

CELEBRATING

GOD

CONNECTING

PEOPLE

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WiFi: JLCguest (no password required)

Welcome and Merry Christmas!

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.

Pre-Service Music: *Lo, How a Rose is Growing*
Come, Come, Emmanuel
-Canon Choir

-setting John Schaffner
-Lynn Bailey & Becki Mayo

Bell

Announcements

Prelude: *Joy of Every Longing Heart*
-Conner Weidman, trumpet
Dona Nobis Pacem
-Junior Gyros

-arr. Lloyd Larson

-arr. Karen Lakey Buckwalter

Call to Worship

We who dwelled in shadows have seen a great light:

Glory from heaven embraces the earth, like a mother's arms around a newborn child.

Tucking the earth in folds of peace, like a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes,

Laying the earth in the cradle of truth, like a baby entrusted to a manger.

As the cry of a baby splits the air, uniting the songs of shepherds and angels,

Let us give thanks for the birth of a child, through whose young life salvation shines!

Gathering Carol: *O Come All Ye Faithful* p. 13

Prayer of the Day

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.

Special Music: *Joy to the World*

-Cherub Choir/Chimes: Andrew Heckman, Nate Heckman

Children's Message

Carol of the Day: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* p. 14

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words

Offering: *A Boy is Born*

-Shaker tune, arr. Wil Jordan

-Canon Choir Members: Devin Dreisbach, Madison Dreisbach,
Alex Heckman, Nora Heckman, Jordan Kerschner, Mia Kerschner,
Grace Martz-Shelton, Sawyer Martz-Shelton

Offering Hymn: *Away in a Manger p. 15*

Holy Communion

Lord, tonight we gather at your table as one family. We give you thanks for welcoming us to this great feast and for giving us your greatest gift, your Son, Jesus Christ, to live among us.

As we celebrate this most holy night, we remember your Son, who took bread and shared it with his friends, saying, "Take, eat, all of you, in remembrance of me."

Likewise, he took the cup, offered it to all, saying, "Take and drink, in remembrance of me."

Bless our kinship at your table Lord. May you live in, around and with us as we are fed and nourished to serve you. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

**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**

Invitation to Communion

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

DISTRIBUTION – continuous distribution

O Holy Night

-Adolphe Adam

-Solos: Jordan Kerschner, Grace Martz-Shelton, Mia Kerschner

Congregational Hymns: *What Child is This?* p. 17
 In the Bleak Midwinter p. 18
 The Bells of Christmas p. 19

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say **The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.** *And each person may respond* **Amen.**

After all have returned to their places, all who are able may stand

May the love, light and life of Christ bless and unite us now and forever.
Amen.

Prayer After Communion

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Candlelighting

[The pastor lights a large candle from The Christ Candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World. The ushers light their candles from the pastor's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted but is always held upright when giving light to another.]

After all candles have been lit:

Candlelighting Hymn: *Silent Night* p. 20

Accompaniment to verse 3: Junior Gyros, chimes; Callie Boscia, cello

Blessing

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Carol: *Go Tell It on the Mountain* p. 21

Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Von Himmel Hoch*

-arr. David Schack

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN TO BE USED AT THE NEXT WORSHIP SERVICE. THANK YOU!

Pre-Service Music: *No Wind at the Window*

-setting by David Sims

Noel pour l'amour de Marie/Chantons je vous prie

-Louis Claude d'Aquin

Pastoral Airs With Variations

-Franz Xaver Anton Murschchausen

Bell

Announcement & Worship Matters

Prelude: *Joy of Every Longing Heart*

-arr. Lloyd Larson

-Conner Weidman, trumpet

Friendship Ringers: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

-arr. Jason W. Krug

Greeting: Greetings, favored ones, the Lord is with you.

His name is Emmanuel, God with us.

Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Glorify to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!

Gathering Carol: *O Come, All Ye Faithful p. 13*

Call to Worship -- Christmas Proclamation

Many ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth
and then formed man and woman in his own image;

long after the great flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant;

twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah;

thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom;

eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges;

one thousand years from the anointing of David as king,

in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets;

in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;

the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome;

the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;

while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace,

Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,

desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming,

being conceived by the Holy Spirit and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother—

now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

Come, Let us worship the Lord!

Glory to the newborn King!

Amen.

Carol of Praise: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* p. 22

Prayer of the Day

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.

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!

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

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. *The word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: *Hark! The Glad Tidings*
-Jordan Chorale

- Polish carol, arr. Elwood Coggin

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

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.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of

David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. *The Gospel of the Lord.*
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Carol of the Day: *On Christmas Night* p. 23

Nicene Creed

In the words of the Creed, let us confess our faith:

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

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

Glory to you, God, for the song of the angels, proclaiming to the world Christ's holy birth. Give your church a joyful song to sing, that we bring the good news of peace and salvation to all people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the stars that shine in the depth of the night. Provoke awe in our hearts at the expansive mystery of the cosmos. Open us to find beauty in the clear darkness of night and in the first glimmers of dawn. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the child born to us who establishes a kingdom of justice and righteousness. Break bonds of oppression, bring reconciliation to warring lands, and establish peace from this time onward and forevermore. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for Mary's loving care. Lead us to tend to one another in time of need. Share the comfort of your presence with all people tonight who are alone or separated from loved ones due to estrangement, incarceration, or illness. We pray especially for those we name aloud or hold silently in our hearts (*a brief silence*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the faithfulness of the shepherds in their vocation. Grant rest to any who feel exhausted from their work during this season: retail and restaurant workers, church musicians, administrative staff, and clergy, organizers of charitable-giving events, and service workers doing essential tasks. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the multitude of the heavenly host. We rejoice in the zeal of all your saints who have witnessed the appearing of your grace, and who reveal to us your salvation for all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.
Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words

Offering: *Gesù bambino* -music by Pietro A. Yon, text by Frederick H. Martens
-Jordan Chorale, Glenn Wagner, baritone soloist

Offering Carol: *Away in a Manger p. 15*

Offering Prayer

God of abundance,

receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Hymn: *Angels From the Realms of Glory* p. 16

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as our Lord taught us:

**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**

Invitation to Communion

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

DISTRIBUTION – continuous distribution

Communion Carols: *In the Bleak Midwinter p. 18*
The Bells of Christmas p. 19
O Little Town of Bethlehem p. 14

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say **The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.** *And each person may respond* **Amen.**

After all have returned to their places, all who are able may stand

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer After Communion

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Post Communion Carol: *Love Has Come p. 24*

The Candlelighting

[The pastor lights a large candle from The Christ Candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World. The ushers light their candles from the pastor's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.]

During Candlelighting: *Silent Night, Holy Night*

-arr. Christopher Uehlein

After all candles have been lit:

Candlelighting Hymn: *Silent Night* p. 20

First verse sung in German by the Jordan Chorale

Accompaniment to verse 3: Friendship Ringers, chimes; Callie Boscia, cello

Reading of Christmas Gospel: John 1:1-14

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

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

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

¹⁴And 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.

Amen.

Blessing

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

Amen.

Candles may be extinguished

Sending Hymn: *Joy to the World* p. 25

Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

-Felix Mendelssohn, arr. John Hebden Schaffner

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

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

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

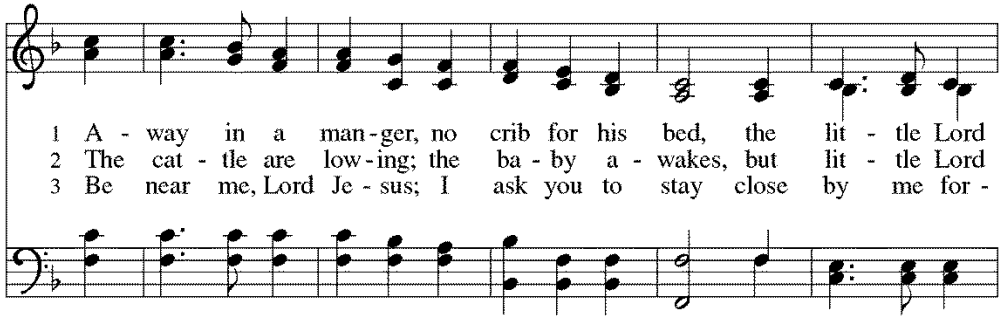
A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, with the first line containing four numbered verses. The second system contains the main body of the text, and the third system is the refrain. The score concludes with a double bar line.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

What Child Is This



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!



In the Bleak Midwinter

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

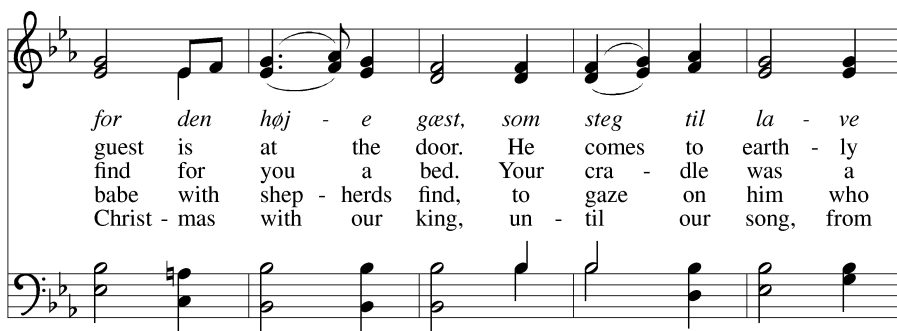
Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

The Bells of Christmas

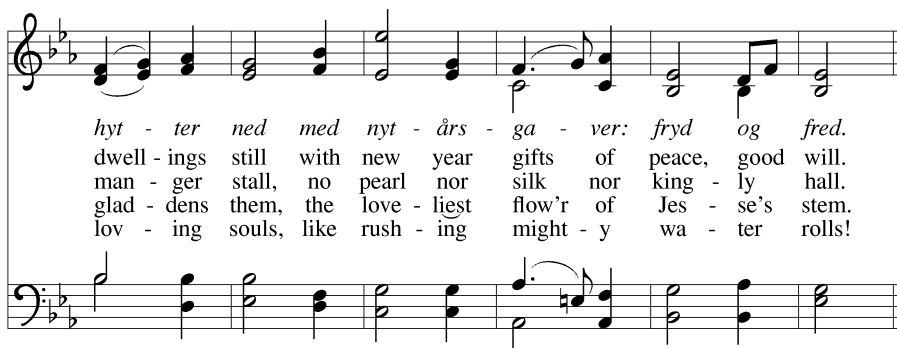
Det kimer nu til julefest



Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer
1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly
2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly
3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled
4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve
guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly
find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a
babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who
Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



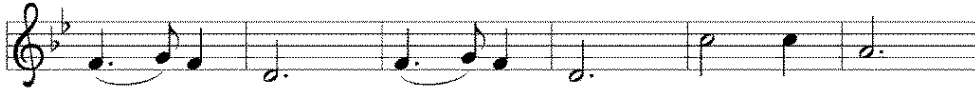
hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.
dwell - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.
man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.
glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.
lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

5 O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,
O Dayspring bright, awaited long,
O Son of Man, incarnate Word,
great David's Son, great David's Lord:

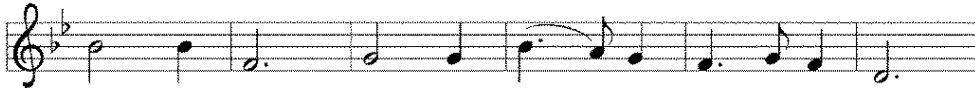
6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,
and keep your Christmas in our breast;
then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,
shall swell our jubilee of song.

Silent Night, Holy Night!

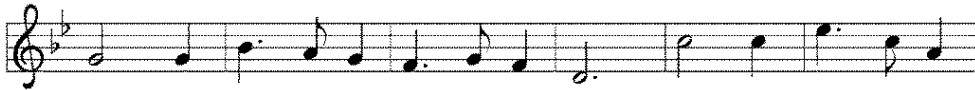
Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!



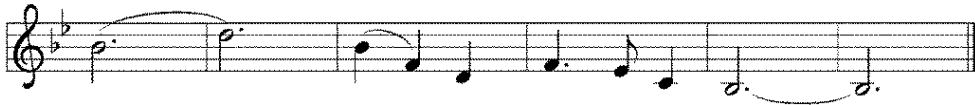
Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 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,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

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

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



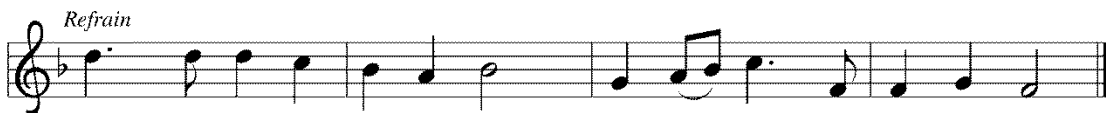
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN. Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

On Christmas Night



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



an-gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to
made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since
in its place. When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then
sing this night. All out of dark-ness we have light, which



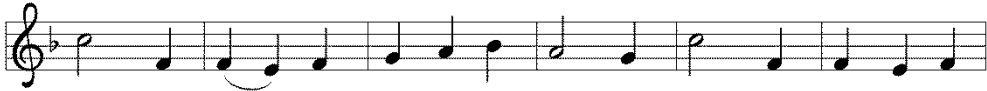
hear the news the an-gels bring: news of great joy, news of great
our re-deem-er made us glad, when from our sin he set us
life and health come in its place. An-gels re-joice with us and
made the an-gels sing this night: "Glo-ry to God in high-est



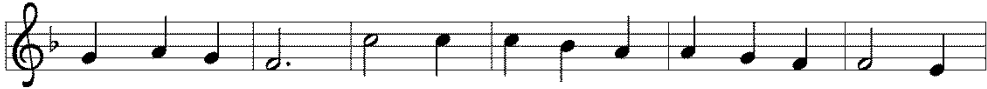
mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.
free, all for to gain our lib-er-ty?
sing, all for to see the new-born king.
heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.
Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional

Love Has Come



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav-en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de Noël's composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin, and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Serving Our Congregation Tonight

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Dody S. Siegfried

Organist: 4:00 - Jan Kistler 7:00 - Sue Hartney

Reader: 7:00 – Ingrid Martz

Ushers: 4:00 – Weidman Family, Heckman Family

7:00 – Stettler/Hartz/DiMaggio/Jensen families

Acolytes: 4:00 – Nora Heckman 7:00 – Olivia Wozniak

Bell Tollers: 4:00 – Dan Stark 7:00 – Bruce Stettler

Altar Guild: 4:00 – Carol Rabenold

7:00 – Louise Stettler

Video: 7:00 – Devin Dreisbach

SAT: 4:00 – Ingrid Martz 7:00 – Ingrid Martz

Special thanks to Conner Weidman and Larry Hahn for providing the beautiful, music that welcomed members as they arrived for the 7:00 service.

Communion Cards: Please take the time to fill out a communion card if you commune this evening. To make it easier for the office volunteers, please fill in your name, *not just your envelope number*, and fill out a separate card for each family member who receives communion. The constitution of Jordan Lutheran Church requires the receiving of communion AND a contribution of record once yearly to be considered an active member.

Holiday Schedule: The office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25th, Tuesday, Dec. 26th, & Monday, January 1st. No Sunday School Dec. 24th or 31st. Classes resume on a normal schedule beginning Jan. 7th.

2023 Year-end Contributions: need to be submitted to the church office **no later than Dec. 31, 2023** in order to receive credit for the 2023 fiscal year. Any offering postmarked after Dec. 31, 2023, will be considered as 2024 income.

The Second Congregational Meeting: will be on Sunday, **February 4th, 2024**. In the event of inclement weather, it will be held **February 11th**. All committees are asked to submit their yearly reports in a timely manner, **by Jan. 21, 2024**. Reports will be distributed a week prior to the meeting [Jan. 28th] for your review.

IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, the most important thing is for everyone to be safe. Please do not travel to Jordan Lutheran Church for worship services or events if you feel doing so would be unsafe. When Parkland School District cancels classes, please be aware that the church building is also closed to all meetings, sports and other activities, and generally includes the office. Storms, blizzards, tornado warnings, power outages, damage to the facility, or a state of emergency that warns people to stay off the roads will also prompt building closures or cancellations.

Your best sources of information: our website, Facebook page, or a call to the church office to hear a voicemail message on weather status.

2023 Christmas Tributes

Evergreen Tree in the Sanctuary is given to the glory of God at this most blessed season, and in loving memory of our beloved parents, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Weber; brothers Fredric W. Anderson, Jr. and Drew Weber; and nephew Fredric W. Anderson III, by Bill & Sue Weber.

Wreaths

In Memory of:

Son, John & Our Parents
Our Parents
M/M M. E. Murphy
Jane Laudenslager
In memory of Diane Stettler
(6) Richard & Ned Mikylychak, Michael & Grace Mikylychak
Richard & Eleanore Reimert, Buddy & Vera Marshall,
Dave & Dorothy Diehl, Joseph E. & Stella Martin,
William J. Martin, Meredith M. Martin, Bob Mack,
Jane & Kenny Miller, Georgia & Normal Shafer,
Rene Dewit, Rev. Wayne E. Killlian

Given by:

Howard & Shirley Schneider
Jim & Terry Gannon
Kevin & Judy Murphy & family
The Family of Jane Laudenslager
Bruce



Their families

Poinsettias

In Honor of:

Mormor
Bobka
Bruce & Louise Stettler
Rita Reinhart
Our granddaughters – Charlotte, Quinn & Josie
Father, Elwood Laudenslager
Shirley Wertman

Given by:

Gracie & Sawyer
Gracie & Sawyer
Children & Grandchildren
Denise & Peter Reinhart
MuMu & Pop Pop Daniels
Children, Stephne, Teresa & Karen
Dean & Shelly Wagaman

Poinsettias

In Memory of:

Donna Fertich
The Dravuschaks
Dr. John Reinhart
My dad, Roger Miller
My brother, David Siegfried
Parents, Ethel & Pete Siegfried
Jean Cydis
Merril L. Leonard, Jr.
Norm Dietrich

Given by:

Terry Gannon
Daughter, Sylvia Appel
Denise & Peter Reinhart
Pastor Dody & Jim Siegfried
Pastor Dody & Jim Siegfried
Pastor Dody & Jim Siegfried
Merle & family
Kathy & Bruce Leonard
Wife, Ila

Robert A. Nagle
 Carl & Theodora Spogen
 Harry & Beulah Wood
 Olive A. Wood
 Tom & Anne Daniels
 Wm. & Mary Lutterschmidt
 Florence Berner
 Departed Loved Ones
 Shirley Beach
 Ben Heist
 Paul & Christine Heist Family
 Mother, Jane Laudenslager
 Lucille Laudenslager
 Lucille Laudenslager
 Larry Wertman
 William & Marilyn Supp
 Sherwood & Dorothy Rabenold
 Herman & Olga Herb
 LeRoy & Dorothy Stettler
 Mark & Margaret Schneck
 Anna-Mari Martz
 Kay Weidner
 Aunt Anna



Barry & Carol Nagle
 Barry & Carol Nagle
 John P. Weremedic
 John P. Weremedic
 The Daniels Family
 The Daniels Family
 The Daniels Family
 The Daniels Family
 The Daniels Family
 Heist Family
 Granddaughters, Summer & Emma Kozy
 Jeff & Rose Laudenslager
 Children, Stephen, Teresa, & Karen
 Loving husband, Elwood
 Dean & Shelly Wagaman
 Barbara Supp, David & Carol Rabenold
 Rabenold Family
 Louise & Bruce Stettler
 Bruce & Louise Stettler
 Bruce Stettler & Family
 Ingrid & Matt
 Ingrid
 Gracie & Sawyer

Hunger Fund

In Memory of:

George, Sarah, Francis & Dennison Bowman
 Glenwood & Marjorie Marley
 Willis E. Kuhns
 Parents

In Honor of:

Children & Grandchildren



Given by:

Gary & Hope Strobl Family
 Kathleen Marley Bacak
 The Willis E. Kuhns Family
 Deith & Judy Young

Given by:

Mamma, Mormor & Farmor

Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Anna-Mari Martz
 Parents
 Clint Trumbauer
 William & Stella Strobl
 Lew & Jean Best

Given by:

Mamma
 Keith & Judy Young
 Wife Arlene & the Trumbauer family
 Gary & Hope Strobl Family
 Boscia Family

Patricia White
Grant White
Joseph & Jean Steiner
Daughter, Holly Marie Laudenslager

Denny & Debbie Barr
Denny & Debbie Barr
Jeff
Parents, Jeff & Rose Laudenslager

Pantry Fund

In Honor of:

Members of Jordan Lutheran for their faithfulness,
hard work & dedication
Children & Grandchildren

In Memory of:

Edward Ott
Brother, Lovey Hersh
Husband, John D. Kuhns
Parents, Florence & John
Nancy, Betsy, Larry Kuhns
Classmate, Nick Kavounas
Marti Boscia & Carol Boscia
Herman E. Rabenold
Esther M. Rabenold
Janice D. Rabenold
Loved Ones
Richard Schaad

Given by:

Pastor Dody & Jim Siegfried
Pastor Dody & Jim Siegfried

Given by:

Gary & Hope Strobl Family
Carol J. Kuhns
Carol J. Kuhns
Carol J. Kuhns
Carol J. Kuhns
Carol J. Kuhns
Boscia Family
Edward Rabenold / Carol Kuhns
Edward Rabenold / Carol Kuhns
Edward Rabenold / Carol Kuhns
Marian Peifley
Nancy Schaad



A Christmas Blessing

May the blessing of joy

abide within you;

May the blessing of peace

rest upon you;

May the blessing of love

flow out through you;

May all the blessings of the Lord

be yours at Christmas

and in the New Year.



The Lord's Table at Jordan Church is an open table. If you are a baptized Christian of any church, believe in the Lord's presence in the sacrament and have received the sacrament before, you are welcome to receive with us. If you are not able to receive, please come forward for a pastoral blessing. To come forward, simply follow the direction of the ushers.

Distribution method is noted in the order for worship.

ALTAR RAIL DISTRIBUTION: As you come forward, please take an empty cup with you to the altar rail. If you choose not to consume wine, grape juice is available. Come to the altar rail without a glass and a communion assistant will offer you the grape juice in a pre-filled glass.

INTINCTION DISTRIBUTION: Come forward and receive a wafer. Then dip it into either the wine (the cup in the center of the bread plate) or the grape juice (in the separate cup held by the second assistant). If you want additional time at the altar, please step to center of the altar rail out of the flow of other worshippers. You are invited to kneel if you wish.

Gluten-free wafers are available – please indicate your need to the communion assistant.

You are asked to fill out **communion cards** clearly and completely, one card per person. Visitors are asked to fill out the address of their home church (if you identify with one) so we may forward the card there. Take a moment also before leaving to sign our guest book, located in the entrance area.

If it is necessary to **leave the sanctuary** during worship, please refrain, if possible, from doing so during the reading of scripture or the Eucharistic prayers so as not to distract other worshippers.

The use of **electronic devices** during worship is discouraged. Please turn off cell phones or place on vibrate before the start of the service.

Hearing assistance is available for members and visitors to Jordan. Please see an usher to arrange to use a receiver. A Koala Bear **baby changing station** is located in the handicapped restroom across from the church offices (in the new section). Children's welcome bags and bulletins are located in the narthex. Please ask ushers for help.

Restrooms are located through the left side doors of the chancel; then left through the french doors; restrooms located in the foyer on the right.

Children in grade 9 and younger are asked to remain in the Memory Room when consuming refreshments during the fellowship hours.

Please be sensitive to the fact that many people are allergic to or bothered by **strong scents** (perfume, aftershave, etc.), particularly when many people are gathered closely together, as for **worship services**.

For Parents of young children: We are grateful that God has blessed Jordan with so many young children. Worshiping with young children is a special privilege and joy for all of us. We enjoy the sounds of children in our worship. However, if you sense the need for a "calming break" feel free to take him/her to the Memory Room or Nursery (located through the doors on the left side of the altar) where you can continue to hear and be involved in the worship.

If you are interested in **becoming a member of Jordan**, please speak with the pastor following the service or call the church office (610-395-5912).

Announcements for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office before 10:00 a.m. on Thursday. Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 15th of the month.