



Welcome
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Order of Worship

Christmas Eve Service 11pm

Welcome

(Please stand, as you are able)

Call to Worship

P: 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 (Isaiah 9:6)

C: **Come, Let us worship Him.**

Opening Hymn: LSB 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Text: Public domain

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

Ref **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel**
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. Refrain

Luke 2:1-5

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when^[a] 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,^[b] who was with child.

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

Text: Public domain

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!

Luke 2: 6-7

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.

364 Away in a Manger

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

Text: Public domain

Luke 2:8-11

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 great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of 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.

366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

1 It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, From heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.

4 For lo, the days have come to pass
By prophets seen of old,
When down into the circling years
Came Christ as was foretold.
His word of peace shall to the earth
God's ancient promise bring,
And all who take this gift will hear
The song the angels sing.

Text: Public domain

First Reading, Psalm 85

LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
²You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you covered all their sin. *Selah*
³You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.
⁴Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us!
⁵Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
⁶Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?
⁷Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.
⁹Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
¹¹Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.
¹²Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
¹³Righteousness will go before him
and make his footsteps a way.

Gospel Reading, John 1:1-14

In 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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life,^[a] and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own,^[b] and his own people^[c] did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son^[d] from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Sermon

Sermon Song, O Come, Be Born Again

Verse 1

Baby born in Bethlehem
Come be born in me again
Since You don't mind dirty stables
Here's my heart not fit or able
To receive such majesty
Still You humbly come to me

Chorus
O come
O come
O come
O come be born again

Verse 2

Chosen One who chose to be
Suff'ring Savior servant King
Since You don't despise the broken
Here's my heart laid bare and open
To receive Your mercy
As Your Spirit calls to me (Chorus)

Verse 3

All who struggle all who sin
Come and become born again
Come and lay your heavy burdens
At the cross where all's forgiven
At His feet new life begins
Come O sinner enter in (Chorus)

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Offering

Lord's Prayer

A: 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.

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.

Prayer

P: 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.

G: Amen

Luke 2: 12-13

And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and 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 among those with whom he is pleased!"

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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

Luke 2:14-17

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." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.

370 What Child Is This

1 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!

2 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!

3 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: Public domain

Luke 18-20

¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 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

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

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

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

4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain

Text: Public domain

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: We praise you O God, because you sent Jesus Christ, your only begotten Son, to be born for us of the Virgin Mary, that we might be delivered from sin, and receive power to become your children. Amen.

P: May the Light of Christ illuminate your hearts. May He bring His Light into the darkness of the world through your words and your deeds.

Blessing 2 Cor 13:14

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God the Father, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

Meditation on the Birth of Christ.

(We remain in silence until the candles are lit. The Light starts from the Christ candle and spreads out into the world.)

Closing Hymn 363 Silent Night, Holy Night Text: Public domain

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.

Silent Prayer **Recessional**

A Blessed and Merry Christmas to everyone!