



## CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

December 24, 2020

2:00, 3:30, 5:00, & 6:30 PM



### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Congregation stands*

#### CHRISTMAS CALL TO WORSHIP

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**P:** In the stillness of this night, a gift is given:

**C:** **Wrapped in swaddling cloths, coming to us as a little baby.**

**P:** Arise, shine, for your light has come,

**C:** **And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!**

**P:** In the miracle and mystery of God's Son born in human flesh, God has given us his salvation.

**C:** **Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

### HYMN

*"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" (LBW45, vs. 1 & 3)*

1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! Oh,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Glo - ry to God . . . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:

*Refrain*

Oh, come, let us a - dore him, oh, come, let us a - dore him,  
 oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

**CHRISTMAS CONFESSION PRAYER**

**Father in heaven, we confess to you that we have sinned and done wrong in your sight. We admit our many failures, selfish thoughts, angry words, and thoughtless actions. We have sinned against you, and against one another. We have not lived faithfully as your children. We ask for your undeserved grace and mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us, we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

*Congregation is seated*

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**CHRISTMAS CANDLE PRAYER**

**O God, as light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us, warming our hearts and brightening our way. May Christ our Savior bring light into the darkness of this world, and to us, as we wait for his coming. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY**

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>Of 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.

*Congregation stands*

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**Luke 2:1-20**

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

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

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." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Congregation is seated*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN

*"Angels We Have Heard On High" (LBW71, vs. 1 & 3)*

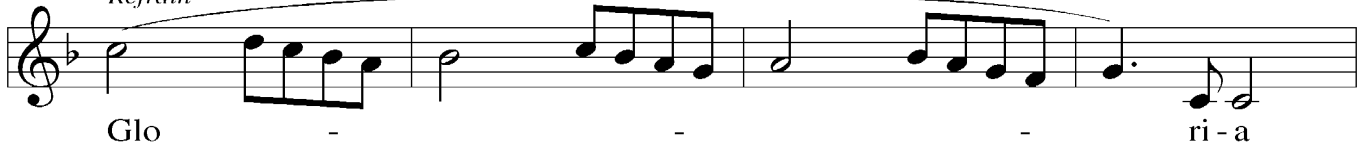


1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

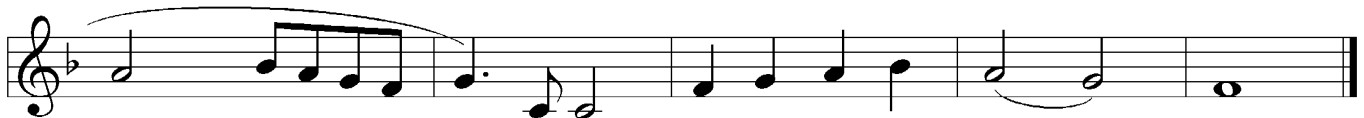
*Refrain*



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

### SERMON

*"The Christmas Miracles"*  
Pastor Wayne Puls

### PRAYERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words.*

**P:** Lord, in your mercy...

**C:** Hear our prayer.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

### HYMN

*"Silent Night"* (LBW65, vs. 1 & 3)



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,



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



peace, born! sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!

## BENEDICTION

### HYMN

*"Joy To The World"* (LBW39, vs. 1-2) →

## CHRISTMAS DISMISSAL

**P:** Christ, the Savior, is born!

**C:** Joy to the world!

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE



# 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



ceive its King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and



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



sing, and heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.