

SANCTUARY



FIRST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

SIGNS OF
Christmas

CHRISTMAS EVE 2020

"This will be a sign to you..."

December 24, 2020: *Christmas Eve*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Message	Pastor Laurie Neill
Assisting Pastor	Pastor Stephanie Tollefson
Music Minister	Michael Olson

PRELUDE:

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve – Charles Ore
Michael Olson, organist

WELCOME from Sr. Pastor Corey Bjertness

SPECIAL MUSIC:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel -- arr. The Piano Guys
Tate Fisher, cello
Michael Olson, accompanist

OPENING PRAYER:

P: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel and be with us. That we might rejoice with Mary and Joseph, the angels and the shepherds as you O God COME DOWN to disperse the gloomy clouds of night and put death's dark shadows to flight by your humble birth in a manger.*

C: **Amen.**

(continued on next page)

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

What Child Is This (ELW 296)

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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD

Luke 1:26-33

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Mary, Did You Know?
Naomi Wawers, vocalist
Michael Olson, accompanist

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Luke 2:1-7

SPECIAL MUSIC:

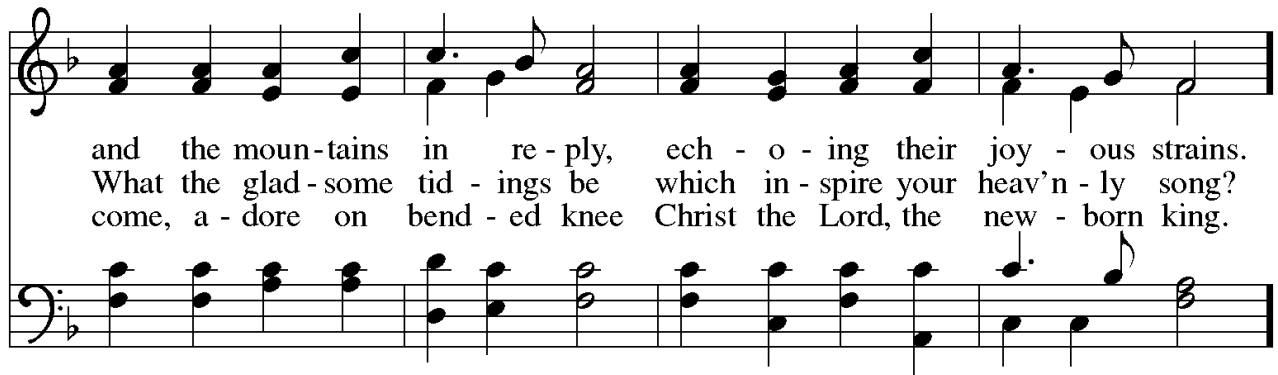
Away in a Manger
Eleanor and Katherine Athy, vocalists
Michael Olson, accompanist

THE SHEPHERDS & ANGELS

Luke 2:8-14

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL *Angels We Have Heard on High* (ELW 289)

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
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.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
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.

VOCAL ENSEMBLE:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing -- arr. David Willcocks

David and Kathy Ferreira, Karl and Sarah Altenburg, Linda Jaeger, Paul Nelson, Kate Moe
Michael Olson, accompanist

THE HOLY FAMILY

Luke 2:15-20

SPECIAL MUSIC:

O Holy Night

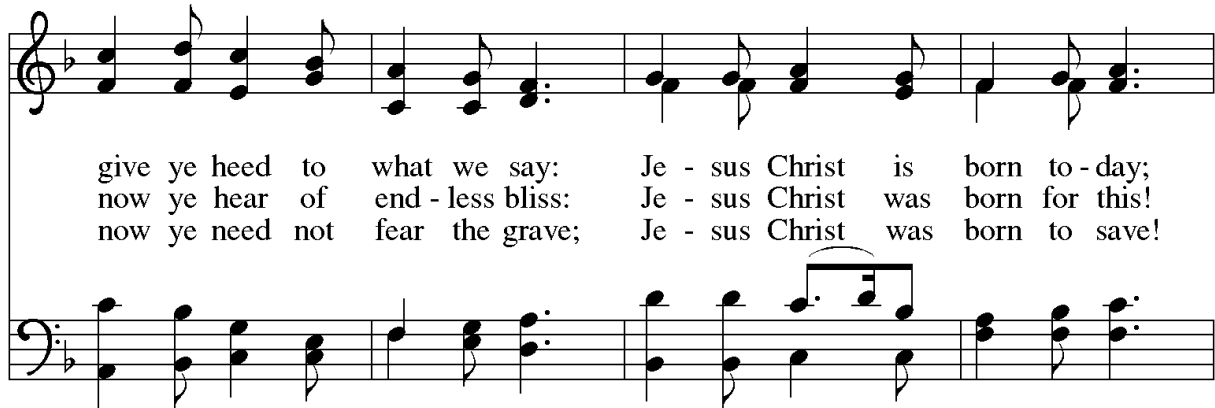
Dave Adams, vocalist
Michael Olson, accompanist

MESSAGE: Pastor Laurie Neill

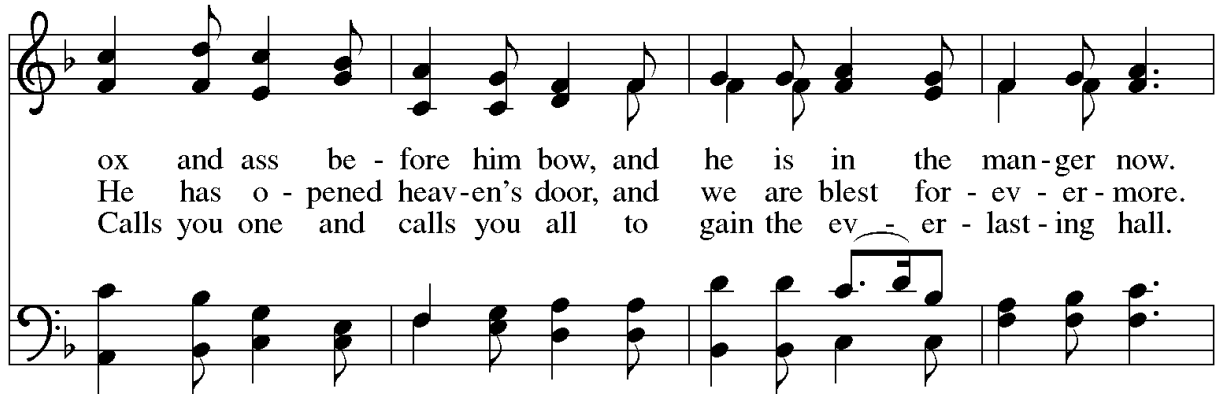
CONGREGATIONAL CAROL *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (ELW 288)



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER: *(spoken by the congregation)*

**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.**

(continued on next page)

DISTRIBUTION CAROL *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (ELW 279)

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: *Immanuel, God is with us! May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, who was born in Bethlehem and lives today in your heart, strengthen you, and keep you, and unite us all together in the gift of his holy light.*

C: **Amen.**

CANDLELIGHTING AND READINGS

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL *Silent Night, Holy Night!* (ELW 281)

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,

Hol - der 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.

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL *Joy to the World* (ELW 267)

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,

POSTLUDE:

*Organ Flourish on Joy to the World – Michael G. Dell
Michael Olson, organist*

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Greetings and
Merry
Christmas!
to you and yours!

With Love,

*First Lutheran
Church Staff*

May you
have the
Gift of
faith,
the
Blessings
of
hope,
and the
Peace of God's
love
this
Christmas.



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CHRISTMAS EVE: Thursday, December 24

ONLINE | flcfargo.org and Facebook
Traditional and Contemporary, 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
Traditional Worship, 10:35 p.m.

TELEVISION | The CW
(Midcontinent 16 and 616; Sparklight 38 and 1038)
Traditional Worship, 12 p.m.
Contemporary Worship, 3 p.m.

TELEVISION | KVLV-11
Traditional Worship, 10:35 p.m.



CHRISTMAS DAY: Friday, December 25

ONLINE | flcfargo.org and Facebook
Traditional Worship, 9 a.m.

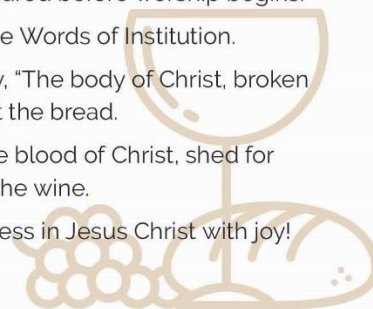
TELEVISION | KVLV-11
Traditional Worship, 9 a.m.

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Christians—no matter where they are—are joined together by the promises Communion holds: forgiveness, new life, and salvation. Therefore, we are offering the opportunity to partake in Holy Communion from your home during Christmas worship.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Have all elements prepared before worship begins.
2. The pastor will share the Words of Institution.
3. The pastor will then say, "The body of Christ, broken for you;" at this time eat the bread.
4. The pastor will say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you;" at this time drink the wine.
5. Receive God's forgiveness in Jesus Christ with joy!



CHRISTMAS TELEVISION BROADCAST SPONSORS:

- The Christmas Eve television broadcasts are given in loving memory of **Hans and LaVerne Halverson**, from Patti Morrow, Steve Halverson, and Doug Halverson.
- The Christmas Day television broadcast is given in honor of the **Heritage House Residents**, from Heritage House Retirement Home.

SUPPORT FIRST LUTHERAN MINISTRIES:

ONLINE GIVING: www.flcfargo.org (click "Donate Now" in the quick links)

TEXT TO GIVE: Text 701.354.1495 with the dollar amount you would like to give

MAIL A CHECK: 619 Broadway, Fargo, ND 58102

CONTACT US:

phone: 701.235.7389 (8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon Friday)

email: info@flcfargo.org | Facebook: First Lutheran Church - Fargo, ND



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