

***Candelight Service
on
Christmas Eve***

December 24, 2021 3:30 p.m.



Watch our Chapel Service on CHANNEL 105

Order of Worship

Prelude

Silent Night

Rhonda R.

Lighting the Candles

Let us pray:

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Christ Be Our Light

ELW 715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.

Make us your living voice. **Refrain:**



Longing for food, many are hungry.
 Longing for water, many still thirst.
 Make us your bread, broken for others,
 Shared until all are fed. **Refrain:**

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
 Longing for warmth, many are cold.
 Make us your building, sheltering others,
 Walls made of living stone. **Refrain:**

Many the gifts, many the people,
 Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
 Let us be servants to one another,
 Signs of your kingdom to come. **Refrain:**

Text: Bernadette Farrell; **Music:** Bernadette Farrell. Text and Music: ©1983 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications.

Words of Welcome and Introduction

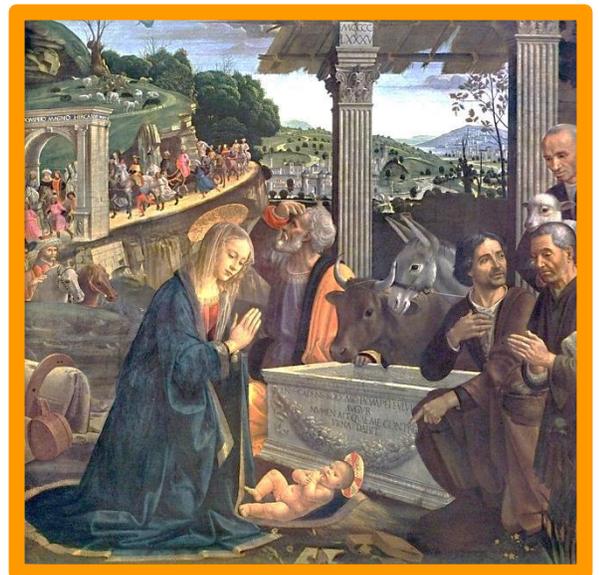
O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW 283

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:

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



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The highest, most holy,
Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain:**

Text: attrib. John F. Wade; tr. Frederick Oakley, sts. 1, 3-4; **Music:** attrib. John F. Wade.

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.

***Were You There on
That Christmas Night?***

Rhonda R.

First Reading – Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For 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. His 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

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.

For Christ is born of Mary,
 And, gathered all above
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep
 Their watch of wond'ring love.
 O morning stars, together
 Proclaim the holy birth,
 And praises sing to God the King,
 And peace to all the earth!

Second Reading – Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

Gospel Acclamation:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
 Joyful, all you nations, rise;
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With angelic hosts proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn king!

Gospel – Luke 2:1-20

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

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, *Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!* When the angels had

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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.* So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Response:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn king!

Text: Charles Wesley, alt.; **Music:** Felix Mendelssohn; arr. William H. Cummings, alt.

Sermon

Expecting

Pr. Mandsager

Your Little Ones, Dear Lord

ELW 286

Her kommer dine arme små

Your little ones, dear Lord, are we,
 And come your lowly bed to see;
 Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind,
 That we the way to you may find.

With songs we hasten you to greet,
 And kiss the ground before your feet.
 Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night
 That gave you birth, our soul's delight.

Text: Hans A. Brorson; tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, alt. **Music:** Johann A. P. Schultz; arr. hymnal version.
 Arr. © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

Prayers of the Church

Sundays and Seasons

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

Response: And also with you.



It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

ELW 282

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, good will to all,
From heav'n's all gracious King.*
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow:
Look now, for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing;
Oh, rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing!

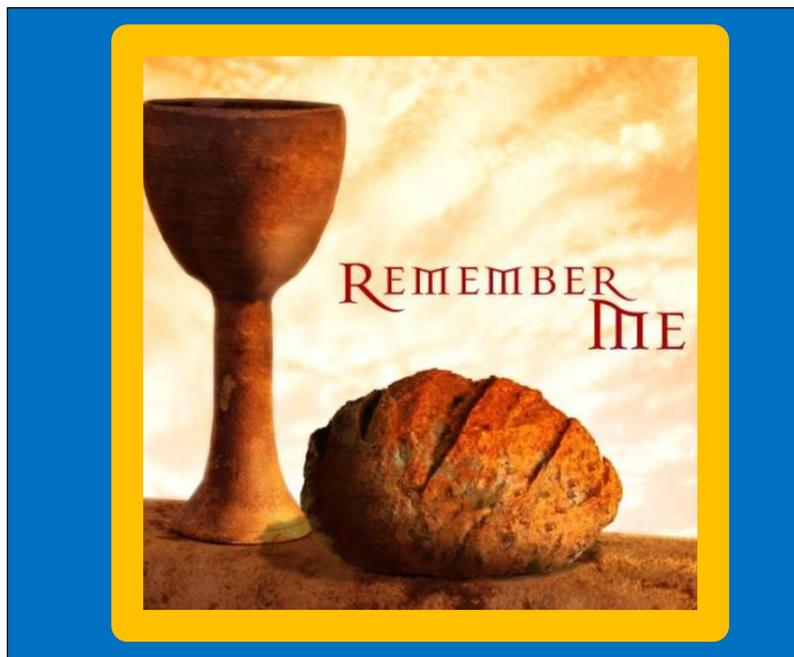
Text: Edmund H. Sears; **Music:** Richard S. Willis.

Offertory*O Holy Night*

Rhonda R.



HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE



The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Response: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Response: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Response: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Turn page)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in
the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Invitation

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray.

**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.**

Communion Distribution

Medley of Hymns

Away in a Manger

ELW 277

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
 The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
 Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
 Bless all the dear children in your tender care
 And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.; **Music:** James R. Murray.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW 276

Infant holy, infant lowly,
 For his bed a cattle stall;
 Oxen lowing, little knowing
 Christ the child is Lord of all.
 Swiftly winging angels singing,
 Bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
 Christ the child is Lord of all!
 Christ the child is Lord of all!

(Turn page)

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds
 keeping
 Vigil till the morning new
 Saw the glory, heard the story,
 Tidings of a gospel true.
 Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
 Praises voicing, greet the morrow:
 Christ the child was born for you!
 Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, alt.; **Music:** Polish carol; arr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Arr. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW 289

Angels we have heard on high,
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
 And the mountains in reply,
 Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

**Glo – ria, in excelsis Deo;
 Glo – ria, in excelsis De-o.**

Come to Bethlehem and see him
 Whose birth the angels sing;
 Come, adore on bended knee
 Christ the Lord, the newborn king.

Refrain:

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*; **Music:** French carol.

Prayer

Oh, grant us then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food while here, our course on earth is lengthened, to serve you free from fear; and bring us home to praise you where none can peace destroy, where we will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

Joy to the World

ELW 267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 Let earth receive her King;
 Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
 And heav'n and nature sing,
 And heav'n and nature sing,
 And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.



Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
 Let all their songs employ,
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills,
 and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Isaac Watts; **Music:** English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, alt.

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Silent Night

ELW 281

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.

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr; tr. John F. Young; **Music:** Franz Gruber.



Christmas Day Worship Calendar
3:30 PM on Channel 105

Christmas Day Vespers **Tomorrow!**
Carol Service with 12/25/2021
Lisa Daehlin, Charles Gray,
and Rhonda Reece

Sundays of Christmas
10:30 AM on Channel 105

First Sunday of Christmas 12/26/2021
Second Sunday of Christmas 1/02/2022

Epiphany Worship Service
Thursday, January 6, 2022
3:30 PM on Channel 105



Northfield
Retirement Community
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CELEBRATING *50 years*

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