

The Nativity of Our Lord
December 24, 2020

+ **INDICATES CONGREGATION STANDS AS YOU ARE ABLE**

PRELUDE

+ **OPENING HYMN** 🎵 “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him
born the king of angels:

Refrain:

Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

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**)

+ **CHRISTMAS GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Jesus Christ is the Word from God who became flesh and blood
and dwelt among us.

**C: God of beginning, God who sends life, God who names us
your children, we have gathered here to worship you.**

P: May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

C: And also with you.

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

**C: 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.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
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.

HYMN ♪ “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

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

Luke 2:1-7

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.

HYMN ♪ **“Away in a Manger”**

Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

CHRISTMAS HOMILY

Rev. Dr. Jack DiMatteo

HYMN ♪ **“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn 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!”

Refrain:

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

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the son of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. **(Refrain)**

OFFERING PRAYER

(Offering baskets will not be passed around. At the conclusion of the service, please place your offering in designated baskets in the rear of the sanctuary.)

P: Gracious God,
 you came to us as one unknown,
 bringing joy and salvation to the earth.
 Nourish us at your banquet table,
 that with all who welcome your birth
 we may proclaim your peace,
 revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *"In the night in which he was betrayed..."*

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(At the invitation of the pastor, please open your communion kit and consume the host and grape juice)

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us from your very self
with the body and blood of Christ.
Through this mystery, send us forth
to proclaim your promise to a world in need,
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

+ CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY

P: Glory to God in the highest,

C: and peace to God's people on earth.

P: Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth
and justice.

C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

P: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

C: Have mercy on those who are sick, dying, and all who suffer this night.

P: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light into all the world.

(Please turn on your candles at this time.)

+ HYMN 🎵 **“Silent Night, Holy Night!”**

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! 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!

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.

+BLESSING

P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the Magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son **†**, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

+ CLOSING HYMN 🎵 **“Joy to the World!”**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev’ry heart prepare him room 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...

Nor more let sin and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found...

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love...

+THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Christ the Savior is Born!

C: Thanks be to God



2020

Poinsettias are given . . .



In memory of our grandson, Benjamin Buechler from Alan and Solveig Buechler.

In memory of our friends, Bill and Lenore Pursch, from Alan and Solveig Buechler.

In memory of Ann Carlsen from Betty Carlson.

In celebration of Marga Conn from Betty Carlson.

In memory of family from Joan Cosgrove.

In honor of my family from Joan Cosgrove.

In honor of all our loved ones from the Crane Family.

In honor of the wonderful people at Holy Trinity from Pastor Jack DiMatteo.

In honor of Jaki Castle and family from Pastor Jack DiMatteo.

In memory of N.K. Metra from Doris Dhar.

In memory of Krishana Dhar from Doris Dhar.

In memory of Ulf Reimer from Doris Dhar.

In loving memory of my brother, Carl Larsson, and his daughter, Kathleen from Myrna Draghi.

A blessed Christmas from Myrna Draghi.

Here's to a "Happier" 2021! From Don and Donna Gullikesen

In honor of our children and grandchildren with love from Peggy and Sam Hon.

In honor of all the wonderful frontline workers from Peggy and Sam Hon.

In loving memory of Larry Karpack from Evelyn and family.

In loving memory of John and Bobby Karpack from Mom and family.

For the joy and pleasure of our 3 children, Vikki, Steven and Diann from Stan and HESSIE Kjekstad.

In memory of Gudrun, Rolf and Richard Bergland from Irma Lafko.

In memory of our loved ones from the Leonard family.

In honor of our grandchildren, Giani, Maci, and Riley from Joe and Joanie O'Connor.

In loving memory of Esther Egeland and Elaine Provost from Joe and Joanie O'Connor.

In loving memory of Joseph O'Connor ("Pops") and Chris O'Connor from Joe and Joanie O'Connor.

Christmas Joy! from Dr. Joanne Schaper

In loving memory of family members from the Schaper, Zoeller, Brightly and Shah families

Many thanks to all for their special efforts in keeping our Church Services ongoing, and so special, during our 2020 Covid Sundays.. With many thanks and much love from Dr. Joanne Schaper.

In loving memory of Jennie & Bartho Melsom from Roy and Barbara Selland.

In loving memory of Paul Melsom from Roy and Barbara Selland.

