



The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day

Immanuel Lutheran Church - LCMS
Lakefield, Minnesota
December 25, 2024

Pre-Service Christmas Music and Carol Sing

Hymn: 376 Once in Royal David's City vs 1, 2, 5



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn: 370 What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
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 and tune: Public domain

Organ/Piano Duet

Tidings of Joy!

Hymn: 363 Silent Night, Holy Night



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,



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 Thy ho - ly face



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 Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn: 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn: 368 Angels We Have Heard on High

with organ/piano duet introduction and conclusion,
"Christmas Gloria"



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.

Text and tune: Public domain

C those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

P You are my lamp, O Lord,

C and my God lightens my darkness.

(all candles are lit, the Christ candle being last)

P Let us pray.

O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true light, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and**

death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Psalm

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

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.

Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous things!



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of
happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”
The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their
voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,

for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

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.
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done
marvelous things!

**His right hand and his holy arm have worked
salvation for him.**

The LORD has made known his salvation;
**he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the
nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of
our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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.

Choir

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1–6

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 1:1–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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

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

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Christmas Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, who sent His Son as our Savior on Christmas Day.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, announced by the angels, worshipped by the shepherds, adored by the wise men, who lived to suffer and die.

He rose again from the dead to free us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, Who brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas,
And by whose continuous work in my heart I am ever led to live under Him as my king, both now and forevermore. Amen.

Sit

Hymn: 375 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising



1 Come, your hearts and voices rais - ing, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.

6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join Your choir above.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: German, 14th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

☐ Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

"God With Us...Rejoice!"

A Carol Setting for Holy Communion

The Preface

- P** Oh, may the good Lord be with you.
C **And may the Lord be with you, too.**
P Lift your hearts to him in praise.
C **To the Lord our hearts we raise.**
P Let us offer praises true.
C **It is fitting so to do:**
Gratefully we sing
To the Lord, our King!

The Great Thanksgiving

- P** Thanks and praise be to you, our Father, almighty Creator, merciful Lord, God of promise and fulfillment. Of old your faithful people waited for the day of your visitation, manifest at last when the time had fully come and you sent forth Jesus Christ, your Son. Having seen his glory, now we wait for the day of consummation, when he will come again as Judge and King. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Sanctus tune: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Holy, holy, holy Lord!
God of hosts, by all adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain
All the glory of your name!
Hail, hosanna, God most high!
Blest is he who now draws nigh
In the name of God the King!
Hallelujahs glad we sing:
Hail, hosanna! Praises due

Be forever, Lord, to you!

The Consecration

The Lord's Prayer tune: Away in a Manger

Our Father in heaven all praise to your name!

Your kingdom among us, your will done the same

By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:

Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;

As we forgive others, our sins take away;

In times of temptation, to lead us be near;

From evil deliver your children most dear.

For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.

And yours is the power; all things you maintain.

To you be the glory, resounding again

From all of creation, forever! Amen.

The Distribution

Hymn: 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymn: 366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

Hymn: 393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Hymn: 365 Away in a Manger

The Thanksgiving tune: Angels From the Realms of Glory

Thank the Lord, his praises voicing

For his promised faithfulness!

All who seek the Lord, rejoicing

Tell his love, his name confess,

For he leads us, with thanksgiving

In the paths of righteousness.

At your word, Lord, let your servant

Go in peace, for with my eyes

I have seen your bright salvation,

**Israel's Light, begin to rise
As the glory of the nations,
Leading me to paradise.**

Prayer

Benediction

P Now may the good Lord bless and keep,
His love in you increase;
Lift up his face with shining grace,
And grant eternal peace.

C **To Father, Son, and Spirit,
Eternal One-in Three,
Be thanks and praise through all our days
And to eternity!**

Hymn: 387 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
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



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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Assisting with the Service

Preacher Rev. David McDonald

Elder Shane Rossow & Albert Henning

Organist Brenda Matasovsky

Acolyte Kaelyn Swanson-Voight & Linkon Phillips

Usher Crystal Dafoe & Leann Henning

We Remember in our Prayers

Those who have lost loved ones over the past year

Immanuel in the Call process for a Pastor

Our residents at Colonial Manor, Valley View, Golden

Horizons in Worthington, Good Sam in Jackson, Accura

HealthCare in Milford, Lakeview in Heron Lake,

Koronis in Paynesville

Keith Kolander, Loretta Palmer, Jackie Ward, Ken Pohlman,

Marlene Hendricksen, Ines Henning, Merlyn Rossow,

Betty Hage, Bev Hall, dealing with health issues

Miles Ramsey, toddler cousin of Amy Altman; Zach

Williamson, friend of Pastor McDonald; Pastor Dennis

Brech, Lake Shetek; Joyce Urmie, sister-in-law of Vickie

Baumann; Stacey Dunker, mother of ILS student

Janessa Dunker; Pastor Ben Rucker; Mitch Voehl, son

of Lila Voehl; Marcus Lere, grandson of Joyce

Bretzman; Denny Daberkow; Jim Salentiny, uncle of

Mark Freking; dealing with cancer

Suzanne Leopold, friend of Jan Bakalyar; Joe Bradley,

nephew of Joyce Aden; Mary Holt, aunt of Debbi

Gettler; Jeff Meyer, friend of Bruce and Jan Bakalyar;


Rob Pohlman, son of Ken Pohlman; Curt Gates,

brother-in-law of Miles Voehl (Lila's son), dealing with

health issues

Our Missionaries in the Field

Our Country and Our Military



**Poinsettias
decorating the chancel
area are given to the Glory
of God by...**

~ Roger and Shelley Pohlman
in memory and honor of
Norman Pohlman Family
Roland Koster Family

~ Jeff and Sherrill Frantsen
in memory of
Carol Frantsen

~ Dennis and Vickie Baumann
in memory of
Clarence & Arlene Baumann
Larry Baumann

~ Ron and Debbi Gettler
in honor of
Their grandchildren
in memory of
Loved ones

~ Joel and Deb Burmeister
in memory of
Albert (Abbie) Burmeister
Irvin & Pearl Swanson

- ~ Kurt and Myleen Swanson
in memory of
Walter & Doris Baumann
Irvin & Pearl Swanson
- ~ Chase, Hristina, and Sofia Hage
in memory of
Loved ones in heaven
- ~ Dave and Carolyn Hansen
in memory of
Curt & Esther Hansen
Dick & Fern Jacobs
- ~ Mike and Dawn Rossow
in memory of
Marv and Nita Appel
- ~ Jolene Rossow
in memory of
Iven Rossow
- ~ Bruce and Jan Bakalyar
in memory of
Earl & Betty Bakalyar
Jack & Dorothy Morrison
Shelly Lesch
- ~ Lila Voehl
in memory of
Loved ones



Wondering where you can watch this service?

1. Facebook: “Immanuel Lutheran Church” on Christmas Day at 10:45 a.m. or any time after.
2. YouTube: “Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Lakefield” Christmas Day at 10:45 a.m. or after.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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*The
Word
became
flesh and made
his dwelling among us.*

John 1:14