



And the angel
said to them,

“Be not afraid; for behold,
I bring you good news of a
great joy which will come to
all the people; for to you is
born this day in the city of
David a Savior, who is
Christ the Lord.”

Luke 2:10-11
www.heartlight.org

**Christmas Eve
December 24, 2023
4:00 p.m.**

Pastor Willie Rosin’s Email

pastorwillie.rosin@gmail.com

Pastor Willie Rosin’ Cell

320-444-7277

Zion’s Office Email

zionmuscatine@gmail.com

Zion’s Phone Number

563-263-5074

Presiding Minister – Rev. Willie Rosin

Assisting Minister – Sarah Evans

Music Minister – Jennifer Rosin

Holy Communion Everlasting Light Liturgy Setting

A very merry Christmas to all who come to celebrate and worship on this holy night! This service is intended to be welcoming for people of all ages, and especially kids. As you come in, there are ribbons of various sorts available for the kids and we will use them during the worship service. All children are invited to gather with Pastor Willie at the back of the nave for the beginning of the worship service and process in waving ribbons with our gathering hymn, O Come, All Ye Faithful.

Thank you for joining us! If you are visiting us today, please fill out a Visitor Card, located in your pew rack, if you would like to have us contact you.

We practice an open communion table at Zion. All who believe in Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to celebrate Holy Communion with us, from the youngest to the oldest members of the body of Christ present in worship.

Children are welcome to fully participate in worship. What could be better than the whole family of God being together in worship? There are Children's worship bags available near the usher's table in the narthex. Should you or your child need a break, there is a nursery located across from Fellowship Hall for your use.

Nursing mothers are welcome to use the Mothers' Room, just one door down the hall from the nursery. Please knock before entering.

This evening we will end the worship service using candlelight or LED finger lights while singing *Silent Night*. The acolytes will pass the light from the Christ candle to the congregation. Please dip the unlit candle into the lighted candle to prevent the hot wax from dripping on hands, clothing, or pews. LED finger lights are available for children or those who would prefer to use them. Thank you for joining God's community of faith gathered at Zion Lutheran church as we celebrate the birth of Christ our Lord! Please join us again!

Thank you to all our musicians who will help with tonight's service, including the Pusateri Quartet, Jennifer Rosin, and Isabelle Rosin on French Horn.

+ Indicates that you are invited to rise as you are able

BOLD PRINT INDICATES CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES

Hymn numbers are the large numbers at the top of the page in the red hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, which is located in the pew racks.

Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

PRELUDE

Pusateri Quartet

Anna Stange (violin), Miriam Garrett (oboe), Maggie Tiecke (piano), Gail Pusateri (cello)

Joseph's Lullaby Bart Millard

Silent Night Scott Davis

O Holy Night Adolphe Charles Adam, arranged by Tim & Ryan O'Neill

What Child Is This? Eugenie Rocherolle

‡ **GATHERING** ‡

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELL CALLING US TO WORSHIP

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

We have waited and waited.

And imagined a savior.

We imagined power.

One like the world but stronger and on our side.

We imagined a king on a white horse wielding a sword.

We got a baby born in a stable among the cows and sheep.

We imagined that he would destroy our enemies.

We receive a baby who will teach us our calling

to seek peace and to love another as God first loved us.

Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.

Praise to the wisdom of love.

Welcome to worship on this holy night in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

You made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Help us to walk in the light of Jesus and on the last day wake to his shining glory. We ask all this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING

Gently *p*

Light the can-dle of CHRIST to-day, the Giv-er of light is
here! Wel-come the light we watch and hope for, but
on - ly Christ can give. Flick - er and flame and
glow with light, light up the world a - round you.
Flick-er and flame and glow with light, light up the world a -
round you.

The musical score is written on six staves in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major). The tempo is marked 'Gently' and the dynamics are 'p' (piano). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

‡ WORD ‡

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

² [a] 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors

and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
6 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.
7 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.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Titus 3:4-7

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water^[a] of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. 6 This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children are invited to come forward at this time. Children are invited to wave ribbons and ring bells every time we sing "Gloria in Excelsis Deo"

WELCOMING THE GOSPEL *Angels, We Have Heard on High v. 1&2* **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.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: GLORIA, French carol

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

*Each time the reader announces To us is born a Savior, the congregation responds: **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

Our Christmas Eve story comes from the Gospel of Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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."

To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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!" To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

When the angels had 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.

To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

To us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

To us is born a Savior.

This is the Good News of the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Celebrating the Gospel *Angels, We Have Heard on High, v. 3* ELW 289
Kids are invited to wave ribbons and ring bells again during "Gloria in Excelsis Deo".



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: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

CHILDREN'S SERMON

The Tale of Three Trees



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.
 Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

+ LITANY AND PRAYERS FOR CHRISTMAS:

On this holy night in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Let us pray for the Church around the world as it celebrates the birth of Christ. Bless all those who are entrusted with the Gospel that your Word might be shared with truth and courage across our world.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Give your wisdom to all who govern, that they would honor your creation and its diversity of race, cultures, genders, and religions.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Grant reconciliation to those surrounded with conflict and violence, that they may live in the peace of this holy night. We pray especially for the people of Israel, Palestine, Sudan, and Ukraine.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Let us pray for all who are anxious, depressed, or ill. Draw near to those who find this season a source of pain or grief, and to all who are suffering or sick, especially Billy, Butch, Christy, Patty, Mary, Bill, Evie, Rodger, John, and Evelyn, and all those we remember in our own hearts ... that they may feel the comfort of this holy night.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Let us pray for parents, families, and newborn infants. Strengthen families in the bonds of love and commitment, that they may delight in the joy of this holy night.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Let us pray for ourselves and for the blessings of Christmas. Open our hearts to your presence, that we may be transformed by the new birth of this holy night.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Let us give thanks for all who have died in the faith and helped us as we grow in faith. Give us grace to follow your holy ones in lives of worship and commitment, that we may we join with the hosts of heaven in singing the praises of this holy night.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of him who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always

And also with you.

‡ **MEAL** ‡

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

Thank you for supporting God's ministry and mission through the people of Zion Lutheran Church. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

We have online giving options available through [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) which allows you to give through the app, online, and even make weekly, biweekly, or monthly donations on a regular schedule. If you are interested in electronic giving options, please contact the church office.

MUSICAL OFFERING

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Pastor Willie & Jennifer Rosin

+ OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, you come to us as a baby and bring heaven the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

+ DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ PREFACE

At the beginning of creation God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light...we now join the saints and angels in a hymn of praise to God.

Amen.

+ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One... God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and
earth are full of your glor - y. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed
is the one who comes... Blessed! Blessed! in the name of God.

+ **WORDS OF INSTITUTION** On the night in which he was betrayed...

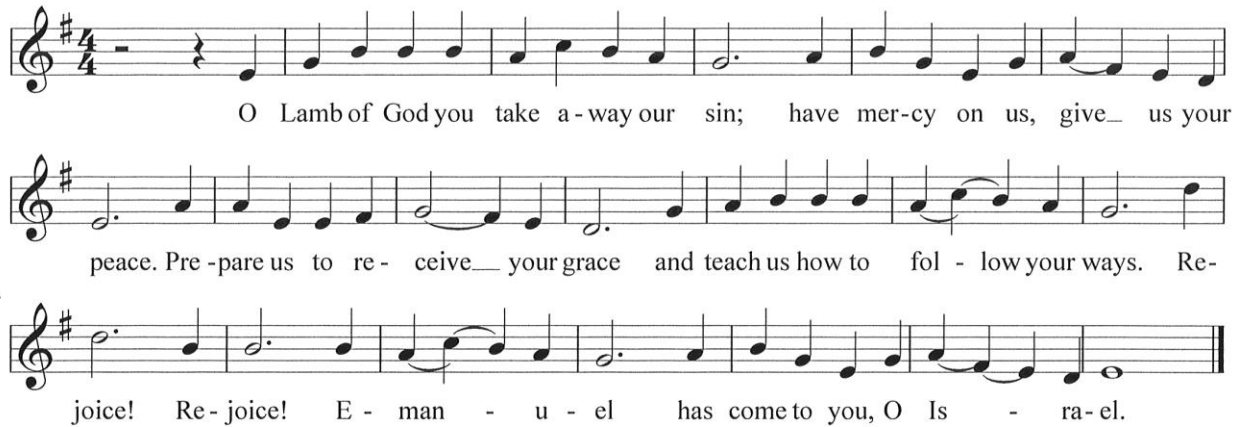
+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

LAMB OF GOD



O Lamb of God you take a-way our sin; have mer-cy on us, give_ us your
peace. Pre-pare us to re- ceive_ your grace and teach us how to fol - low your ways. Re-
joice! Re- joice! E - man - u - el has come to you, O Is - ra-el.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please come forward for communion as directed. We will serve communion by continuous distribution with one station for bread in the center and a station for wine on each side. Please receive wine from the side on which you are sitting and return to your seat by walking down the side aisle. If you are unable or would prefer not to come forward, please inform one of the ushers and communion will be brought to where you are seated. If you do not wish to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward with arms crossed to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available in the separate small dish on the bread tray. Please let Pastor Willie know if you would like a gluten-free wafer. If you wish to receive grape juice rather than wine, please indicate this preference by approaching the communion server with your hand out and palm down. The grape juice is located in the center ring of the communion tray. All who believe in Christ as Lord and Savior, young and old, are welcome at this feast.



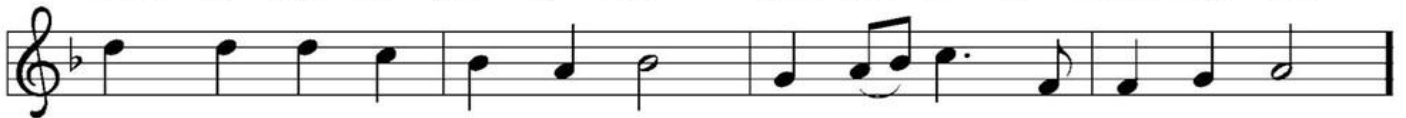
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

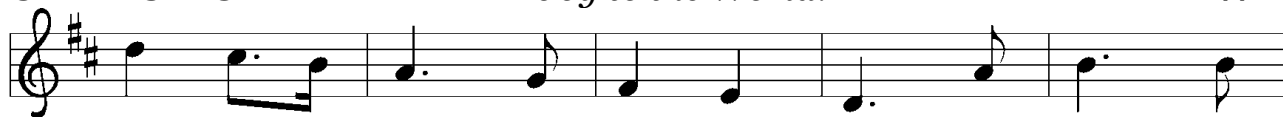
Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915



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



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

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 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 BLESSING

+ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus, our bright Morning Star, we give you thanks that you have fed us well through the bread and wine of your Supper. May it enable us to shine brightly in this world with your love, justice and peace. We ask this in your holy name.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LIGHT

As the ushers pass the light to members of the congregation, pass it to the person next to you.

DO NOT TIP a lighted candle. If you or your child(ren) has battery operated lights, now is the time to turn them on and let those lights shine!

While the light is being passed, the following will be read.

CANDLELIGHT READING

Reader 1: John 1

Reader 2: Genesis 1

Reader 1: In the beginning was the Word,

Reader 2: *In the beginning when God began to create the heavens and the earth, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep while a spirit from God swept over the face of the waters.

He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And God saw that the light was good.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image,

in the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them. And God blessed them.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

From the fullness of the Word made flesh we have all received grace upon grace.



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,



Hold - er 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.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

‡ **SENDING** ‡

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

+ **CHRISTMAS BLESSING**

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God; Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

Children are invited to come forward for the sending hymn and recess out with Pastor Willie, waving ribbons and ringing bells!

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,

2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth

3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.

Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, tonight the Savior is born!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Parts of this service used with permission from

<http://www.liturgybytlw.com/AdvXmas/XmasMid.html> and Rev. David Hansen