



Prelude: Naomi Baker

Welcome

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Gracious God of heaven and earth, You have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness— A beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts. Amen.**

Gathering Song: *Angels We Have Heard on High* ELW 289 French/Latin

Holy Baptism of Evan Gilbertson (page 227)

Song: *Your Little Ones, Dear Lord* vs 1,3,4 ELW 286 Danish

Lessons and Carols

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

2 The Lord says, "Bethlehem Ephrathah, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times."

3 So the Lord will abandon his people to their enemies until the woman who is to give birth has her son. Then those Israelites who are in exile will be reunited with their own people. 4 When he comes, he will rule his people with the strength that comes from the Lord and with the majesty of the Lord God himself. His people will live in safety because people all over the earth will acknowledge his greatness, 5 and he will bring peace.

Song: *Let Our Gladness Have No End* ELW 291 Bohemian

Second Reading: Luke 1:26-35, 38

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy God sent the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee named Nazareth. ²⁷ He had a message for a young woman promised in marriage to a man named Joseph, who was a descendant of King David. Her name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel came to her and said, "Peace be with you! The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you!"

²⁹ Mary was deeply troubled by the angel's message, and she wondered what his words meant. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary; God has been gracious to you. ³¹ You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king, as his ancestor David was, ³³ and he will be the king of the descendants of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end!"

³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "I am a virgin. How, then, can this be?"

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and God's power will rest upon you. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God.

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," said Mary; "may it happen to me as you have said." And the angel left her.

Song: *Cold December Flies Away* vs 1 & 3 ELW 299 Catalan

Third Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ This was how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they were married, she found out that she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Joseph was a man who always did what was right, but he did not want to disgrace Mary publicly; so he made plans to break the engagement privately. ²⁰ While he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary to be your wife. For it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived. ²¹ She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus—because he will save his people from their sins."

²² Now all this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet, ²³ "A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel" (which means, "God is with us").

²⁴ So when Joseph woke up, he married Mary, as the angel of the Lord had told him to. ²⁵ But he had no sexual relations with her before she gave birth to her son. And Joseph named him Jesus.

Song: *That Boy-Child of Mary* vs 1,2,3,6 ELW 293 Malawi

Fourth Reading: Luke 2:8-20

⁸ There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, ¹⁰ but the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. ¹¹ This very day in David's town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord! ¹² And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great army of heaven's angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God:

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them back into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When the shepherds saw him, they told them what the angel had said about the child. ¹⁸ All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said. ¹⁹ Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them. ²⁰ The shepherds went back, singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen; it had been just as the angel had told them.

Song: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* ELW 276 Polish

Fifth Reading: Matthew 2:1-11

2 Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod was king. Soon afterward, some men who studied the stars came from the East to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him."

³ When King Herod heard about this, he was very upset, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. ⁴ He called together all the chief priests and the teachers of the Law and asked them, "Where will the Messiah be born?"

⁵ "In the town of Bethlehem in Judea," they answered. "For this is what the prophet wrote:

⁶ "Bethlehem in the land of Judah,
you are by no means the least of the leading cities of Judah;
for from you will come a leader
who will guide my people Israel."

⁷ So Herod called the visitors from the East to a secret meeting and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem with these instructions: "Go and make a careful search for the child; and when you find him, let me know, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹⁻¹⁰ And so they left, and on their way they saw the same star they had seen in the East. When they saw it, how happy they were, what joy was theirs! It went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹¹ They went into the house, and when they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshiped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and presented them to him.

Offertory Song: *I Wonder As I Wander* American

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ord'n'ry people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, all in a cow's stall,
came wisemen and farmers and shepherds and all,
and high from the heavens a star's light did fall;
the promise of the ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
he surely could have had it, 'cause he was the king.

Offertory Prayer

Blessed be your name, O God; you are the source of every blessing. From your hand we receive the good gifts of life, health, and salvation. As we give and receive these presents, bless us with hearts thankful for the gift of your Son and lead us to share from our abundance with those in need. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Sixth Reading: John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning the Word already existed; the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² From the very beginning the Word was with God. ³ Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him. ⁴ The Word was the source of life,^[a] and this life brought light to people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out. ⁶ God sent his messenger, a man named John, ⁷ who came to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came to tell about the light. ⁹ This was the real light—the light that comes into the world and shines on all people. ¹⁰ The Word was in the world, and though God made the world through him, yet the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to his own country, but his own people did not receive him. ¹² Some, however, did receive him and believed in him; so he gave them the right to become God's children. ¹³ They did not become God's children by natural means, that is, by being born as the children of a human father; God himself was their Father.

¹⁴ The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son.

Gloria en las alturas Puerto Rican

Gloria en las alturas
Glory in the Highest

Estribillo/Refrain

¡Glo - ria en las al - tu - ras y en la tie - rra paz!
Glo - ry in the high - est and peace on the earth!

¡Glo - ria en las al - tu - ras y en la tie - rra paz! Di -
Glo - ry in the high - est and peace on the earth! Sing

gá - mos - le al mun - do: "¡Cris - to es Na - vi - dad!" Di -
out the glad tid - ings of our Sav - ior's birth! Sing

gá - mos - le al mun - do: "¡Cris - to es Na - vi - dad!"
out the glad tid - ings of our Sav - ior's birth!

- 1 Jesús ya no quiere posada en mesón;
Jesús ya no quiere posada en mesón;
él busca morada en tu corazón;
él busca morada en tu corazón.

Estribillo

- 2 Abrele tus puertas y déjalo entrar;
abrele tus puertas y déjalo entrar;
y todos los días será Navidad;
y todos los días será Navidad.

Estribillo

Estribillo y estrofas se cantan con la misma tonada.

- 1 *Jesus seeks no lodging that sets him apart;
Jesus seeks no lodging that sets him apart;
he looks for a dwelling, a home in your heart;
he looks for a dwelling, a home in your heart.*
Refrain

- 2 *Open up your heart, then, for Christ to come in;
open up your heart, then, for Christ to come in;
and all of your days will be Christmas again;
and all of your days will be Christmas again.*
Refrain

Refrain and stanzas are sung to the same melody.

Text: Puerto Rican traditional; tr. Gerhard Cartford
Music: CRISTO ES NAVIDAD, Puerto Rican traditional

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Prayers of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Praise God, from whom all creations flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below!

You are the shepherds telling the story.

We tell it in the streets and across the land.

You are the wise ones worshipping with thanksgiving.

We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

You are the angels announcing peace.

We live with joy and go now in peace.

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song:

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child ELW 297

African American

Postlude Naomi Baker

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BAPTIZED TODAY in the Christian faith and into the life of Christ is *Evan John Gilbertson*, son of Thomas & Ashley Gilbertson. Welcome Evan!

Hospitalized: Tammy Swanson, Marlow Norum

We Express Our Sympathy and Remember In Our Prayers: The family of Jerry Koenig husband of LaNell, step-dad of Pastor Naomi.



The Christmas tree on the right side of the sanctuary is from Calvary's Blue Christmas service. The "Tags of Lament" and "Stars of Hope" on the tree remind us there is hope amid our despair.



The Giving Tree is empty of ornaments, the gifts have been brought in, sorted, delivered and distributed! What a wonderful outpouring of love for those in need! Thank you Calvary for your generous response! It will be a blessed Christmas for many because of you.

Social Kindness Committee

HAPPENINGS AT CALVARY

Singing with masks during worship is highly recommended.

Dickerson's Donuts, Today following worship.

Calvary Church Office will close at noon December 31st.

No Wednesday Night Activities December 29th.

Bell Rededication January 9th

Grief Care –next meeting January 10, 2022

Book Study Groups beginning in January

Calvary Connection/Time & Talent Forms -please turn in

Lost and Found is growing

Volunteers needed-office, sound, video

The Amazing Collection-Mondays at 9:00AM in the Friendship Room

Text Bible Study—will not meet December 30th.

"Gather" Bible Study -3rd Wednesday of each month, 10:00AM, Friendship Rm

Further details regarding announcements can be found in the Weekly Messenger, available by mail, email or at the Calvary Office.

Serving Today

Preaching: Pastor Naomi Mahler

Assisting: Pastor Dean Johnson

Acolyte: Leiah Arends, Lola Nelson

Greeters: Joel & Cheryl Ruter
John & Dawn Kappers

Lectors: Bob Dickerson

Office Volunteer: Deb Johnson

Sound: Doug Sawatzke

Video: Troy Pederson & Chris Bennett - **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Presiding and Preaching at Svea: Pastor Ingrid Skilbred



January 9th

Bell Rededication

Join Us for Worship at 8:00am or 10:15am.
Special music by Gloria Lien.

9:05am Fellowship and all ages activities
in Bethany Hall.

*More activities all year with a grand celebration banquet
and worship on December 3rd and 4th, 2022*