



The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve
Tuesday, December 24, 2024 3:30pm 5:30pm

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.



Prelude (3:30) Sandy Hanson, Donna Jo Kopitzke
(5:30) Calvary Bell Choir

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Call to Worship "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" ELW 270

Invocation

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lighting of the Candles

In the midst of darkness, candles have shone.

Glory to God in the highest!

In the midst of darkness, we have seen the light of Christ.

Glory to God in the highest!

In the midst of darkness, we go forth to be the light of Christ.

Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia! Amen.

Song - The Candle of Christ (to the tune of "O Worship, the King")

The Christ candle's light that shines for us here
Tells out the good news that God has come near!
God came, a poor baby, in one time and place,
To show all creation the wealth of God's grace.

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God-with-us, we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.

Turn us from our ways to your ways.

Grant us the grace to begin again.

Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

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. Amen.

Gathering Song "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ELW 283 vs 1-3

Scripture 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.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Special Music 3:30 “Manger Throne” Briana Broberg
5:30 “Christmas Lullaby” Lori Halverson

The Christmas 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 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, and 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, just as it had been told them.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon "What Child is This" Pastor Dwaine Sutherland

Song of the Day "What Child Is This" ELW 296

The Apostles' Creed (page105)

Prayers of the Church (God of grace, **receive our prayer.**)

Special Music/Offering "Away in a Manger" Calvary Bell Choir

Offering Response "When Mary and Joseph Sought Safety and Shelter"
(to the tune of "Let All Things Now Living")

When Mary and Joseph sought safety and shelter,
Who welcomed them gladly? Who said, "Come and stay"?
Who said, "Come inside here"? Who gave food and water?
Who offered a place to keep cold winds away?
O Lord, we remember, and sometimes we wonder:
You no longer need a small bed filled with hay.
So how can we welcome you, Jesus our Savior?
And how can we show that we love you today?

Offering Prayer

Together we pray, **in the God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer (page 112)

Communion Music Calvary Bell Choir "Coventry Carol" "Jeg Er Sa Glad"

Congregational Songs "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve" ELW 271
(1st verse in Norwegian, then 1-5 in English)
"On Christmas Night" ELW 274
"Away in a Manger" ELW 277
"Angels We Have Heard on High" ELW 289

Blessing and Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, by your Son, you have united earth and heaven. May we who have tasted heavenly things share the gift of your presence with all the world. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, **Amen.**

Candle Lighting: John 1:1-5

*The pastor carries the light from the Christ Candle, lighting the acolyte candles. They in turn, light the candles of the first worshiper in each row. The lit candle is never tilted, but always held upright to another. **Please try to avoid dripping wax on the floor or pews.** Following the service please return candles to the boxes in the narthex.*

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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. 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 overtake it.

A Prayer for Christmas

Sending Song "Silent Night" ELW 281

Postlude Calvary Bell Choir [Sundaysandseasons churchart.com](http://Sundaysandseasons.churchart.com); [carolynshymns](http://carolynshymns.com)

Serving Tonight 3:30pm & 5:30pm

- Preaching:** Pastor Dwaine Sutherland
- Presiding:** Pastor Amy Juel, Pastor Wayne Kopitzke
- Acolytes:** **3:30pm** - Samantha Miller, Hayley Chouanard
5:30pm - Leo & Isabelle Engel
- Communion Assistants:** **3:30pm** - Corey & Elissa Nelson
5:30pm - Mary Jo deCatheliineau, Karen Loge
- Greeters:** **3:30pm** - Larry & Marcia Knutson, Dave & Marie Fett
5:30pm - Shawn & Krista Swenson, Andy & Jean Berg
- Sound:** **3:30pm** - Dean Hanson
5:30pm - Victoria Larsen
- Video:** **3:30pm** - David Sehloff

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday, December 25

Closed

Thursday, December 26

7:30am - 2:00pm

Friday, December 27

7:30 - 2:00pm

Monday, December 30

7:30 to 4:30pm

Tuesday, December 31

7:30am - 12:00pm

Wednesday, January 1

Closed

Thursday, January 2

7:30am - 2pm

Friday, January 3

7:30am - 2pm

Christmas
Birth of Jesus Word Search

N	K	H	F	O	S	H	I	N	I	N	G	Z	I	P
C	C	I	D	R	J	G	W	T	V	R	K	M	V	P
T	Q	H	V	A	A	K	G	A	B	R	I	E	L	W
C	W	Q	W	H	A	N	G	E	R	S	N	S	N	L
D	X	O	L	E	Y	P	K	L	Z	T	G	S	M	C
O	L	J	L	H	N	R	G	I	F	T	S	I	Q	U
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P	L	H	V	S	Q	Y	H	R	H	Q	D	R	E	N
E	F	G	L	Q	K	G	T	D	Q	H	Y	B	A	B
R	D	O	G	F	O	N	O	S	I	O	R	N	H	H

ANGEL	GABRIEL	MAGI	SHEPHERDS
BABY	GIFTS	MANGER	SHINING
BETHLEHEM	GOLD	MARY	SON OF GOD
CENSUS	INNKEEPER	MESSIAH	STABLE
DONKEY	JESUS	MYRRH	STAR
EAST	JOSEPH	NIGHT	STRAW
FRANKINCENSE	KINGS	SHEEP	WISE MEN

BiblePuzzles.com