

# **JESUS IS BORN!**

***Welcome to Calvary this Christmas Day  
Wednesday, December 25, 2024 9:30am***

Amid the bustle, may peace guide you.  
Despite the noise, may silence speak to you.  
Under the lights, may the darkness beckon.  
When demands are made of you,  
may you be sustained by the gift you are given.  
When jolly words frame hidden loneliness,  
may you know unshakable love.  
When you are surrounded by what is trite and cheesy  
and hounded by what is expected and irrelevant,  
may you be arrested by wonder,  
led by delight, and held with tender love.  
When you wait for the surprise that never comes,  
may the grace that has always been happening  
catch up with you.

Not with earthquake or armies,  
but tiny and fragile, quiet and easy to miss,  
may the Child come to you.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes Unfolding Light





**Gathering Music**  
**Ringing of the Bell**  
**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

On this Christmas morning we worship  
in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Glory to God in the Highest, Amen!**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

**Lord, let us shine Your light.**

God, your light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.

**Lord, let us shine Your light.**

Arise, shine, for your light has come,

**Lord, let us shine Your light, Amen!**

**Song** “Light of the World”

**\*\*The Twelve Prayers of Christmas\*\***  
(Author, Candy Chand)

<b>Mary</b>	Scripture, Luke 1:26-38 Song, “Breath of Heaven”
<b>The Donkey</b>	Scripture: Luke 2:1-5 Song, “Away in a Manger” ELW 278 (vs 1,2)
<b>The Innkeeper</b>	Scripture, Luke 2:4-7 Song, “Welcome to Our World”
<b>Joseph</b>	Scripture, Matthew 1:18-24 Song/Video, “Joseph’s Song”
<b>The Star</b>	Scripture, Matthew 2:1-2 Song, “Bright and Glorious” ELW 301 (vs 1,2)

**The First Wiseman**      Scripture, Matthew 2:3-6  
Song, "The First Noel"      ELW 300 (vs 1-2)

**The Second Wiseman**      Scripture, Matthew 2:7-9  
Song, "The First Noel"      ELW 300 (vs 3-4)

**The Third Wiseman**      Scripture, Matthew 2:10-12  
Song, "The First Noel"      ELW 300 (v 5)

**Offering**      "Christmas Offering"

**Offering Prayer**

We pray together, **Lord, help us to take the angel's message to heart, and to realize that the birth of Jesus our Savior is good news for us and for all people. Lead us to give glory to you by a life of joyful service to you and to other people. Amen.**

**The Angel**      Scripture, Luke 2:8-14  
Song, "It Came Upon "      ELW 282 (vs 1,2)

**The Shepherd**      Scripture, Luke 2:15-18  
Song, "Go Tell It On the Mountain"      ELW 290

**The Lamb**      Scripture Isaiah 11:1-6  
Song, "Your Little Ones"      ELW 286 (vs 1,3)

**A Christmas Creed/Confession**

**I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the Gospel begun in Bethlehem.**

**I believe in the One for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today. I believe in the One whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.**

**I believe in the One who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible.**

**I believe in the One whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who loved sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.**

**I confess my ever-lasting need of God: The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold. I believe in God who gives us the best of himself. I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God, born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the world.**

Friends, hear this, God grants you the light in Christmas, which is faith; the warmth of Christmas, which is love; the radiance of Christmas, which is purity; the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice; the belief in Christmas, which is truth; the all of Christmas, which is Christ. With this, all your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

### **Holy Communion**

**Communion Music**      “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” ELW 270  
                                  “All My Heart Again Rejoices” ELW 273  
                                  “O Little Town of Bethlehem” ELW 279

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Generous and Loving God, from the cradle to the cross, you gave us your all. Love was born that Christmas Day and love continues through your precious gift of Jesus, the Christ. **Amen.**

**The Christ Child**              Scripture, John 1:1-14  
  Song, “All is Well”

### **Announcements**

### **Sending Blessing**

**Sending Song** “Joy to the World” ELW 267

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace and live in the joy of Christmas!  
**We will! Thanks be to God!**

### **Postlude**

