

# *Christmas Eve Service 2020*



## *The Nativity of Our Lord*

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
901 Cornwall Crescent  
Dawson Creek, BC

# Nativity of our Lord Candlelight Service

**Service Note:** You may wish to have a candle ready to light during the candle light portion of our service.

## Prelude Music

### AS WE GATHER

Most of us have heard the old carol “O Holy Night,” but sometimes we forget that none of us makes this night holy. The Lord makes this night holy, and He needs no help from us. What He does ask of us is that we listen to the familiar story, that we believe its truth and promise, and that we live in reflection of what God has done to save us. We cannot make this night holy, but we can keep it holy with faith that kneels at the manger, heads bowed in prayer and adoration, and voices raised in a joyful song of thanksgiving and praise.

## Prayer

## Invocation

### Entrance Hymn “Oh Come All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful,  
 Joyful and triumphant,  
 O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
 Come and behold Him,  
 Born the King of angels;

### Refrain

O come, let us adore Him,  
 O come, let us adore Him,  
 O come, let us adore Him,  
 Christ the Lord.

Highest most Holy,  
 Light of Light Eternal  
 Born of a virgin a mortal he comes  
 Son of the Father,  
 now in flesh appearing

Refrain:

Sing, choirs of angels,  
 Sing in exultation;  
 O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
 Glory to God,  
 Glory in the highest;

Refrain

*1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Readings of Holy Scripture*

*Genesis Chapter 3:8-15 and Isaiah Chapter 9:2,6-7*

### **Prepare the Royal Highway**

Prepare the royal highway,  
 the King of kings is near;  
 let every hill and valley  
 a level road appear.  
 Then greet the king of glory  
 foretold in sacred story:

**Refrain:**

Hosanna to the Lord!  
 For He Fulfills God's Word

God's people, see him coming:  
     your own eternal king!  
 Palm branches strew before him;  
 spread garments; shout and sing.  
 God's promise will not fail you;  
 no more shall doubt assail you: [Refrain]

    His is no earthly kingdom;  
     it comes from heaven above.  
 His rule is peace and freedom,  
     and justice, truth, and love.  
 So let your praise be sounding  
 for kindness so abounding: [Refrain]

*3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Readings of Holy Scripture*

*Micah Chapter 5:2-5 and Matthew Chapter 1:18-25*

**O Holy Night**

O holy night!  
 The stars are brightly shining  
 It is the night of our dear Savior's birth!  
 Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
 Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
 A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices  
 For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees  
 O hear the angel voices  
 O night divine  
 O night when Christ was born  
 O night divine  
 O night, O night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another  
 His law is love and His gospel is peace  
 Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother  
 And in His name all oppression shall cease  
 Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
 Let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord  
 Oh, Praise His name forever  
 His power and glory ever more proclaimed  
 His power and glory ever more proclaimed

### *5<sup>th</sup> Reading of Holy Scripture*

*Luke Chapter 2:1-7*

### **Away in a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
 the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
 the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
 but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
 I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
 and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
 close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
 Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
 and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*6<sup>th</sup> Reading of Holy Scripture*

*Luke Chapter 2:8-12*

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
 How still we see thee lie!  
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
 The silent stars go by.  
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
 The everlasting Light;  
 The hopes and fears of all the years  
 Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary  
 And gathered all above,  
 While mortals sleep the Angels keep  
 Their watch of wondering love.  
 O morning stars, together  
 Proclaim the holy birth!  
 And praises sing to God the King,  
 And peace to men on earth.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
 Descend to us, we pray!  
 Cast out our sin and enter in,  
 Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels,  
 The great glad tidings tell;  
 O come to us, abide with us,  
 Our Lord Emmanuel!

*7<sup>th</sup> Reading of Holy Scripture*

*Luke Chapter 2:13-20*

**The First Noel**

The first Noel the angel did say  
 was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
 in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
 on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

**Refrain:**

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
 born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star  
 three Wise Men came from country far;  
 to seek for a king was their intent,  
 and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
 o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
 and there it did both stop and stay,  
 right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]

And entered in those Wise Men three,  
 full reverently upon their knee,  
 and offered there, in his presence,  
 their gold and myrrh and frankincense. [Refrain]

## Sermon – Not Missing out on Christmas

### Prayers of The Church

#### **What Child Is This**

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
 On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
 Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
 While shepherds watch are keeping?  
 This, this is Christ, the King,  
 Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
 Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
 The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
 Where ox and ass are feeding?  
 Good Christian, fear: for sinners here  
 The silent Word is pleading.  
 Nails, spears shall pierce Him through  
 The cross He bore for me for you  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh  
 The babe, the Son, of Mary

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
 Come, peasant, king to own Him.  
 The King of kings salvation brings;  
 Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the Son on high  
 The virgin sings her lullaby  
 Joy, joy for Christ is born  
 The babe the Son of Mary



*Reading of Holy Scripture*

*John 1:1-4, 14*

*Lighting of candles*

**Silent Night**  
**Verse 1 in German then 1,2,3 in English**

German:

Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!  
 Alles schläft, einsam wacht,  
 nur das traute, hoch heilige Paar.  
 Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
 schlaf in himmlischer Ruh',  
 schlaf in himmlischer Ruh'!

English:

Silent night, holy night!  
 All is calm, all is bright  
 round yon virgin mother and child!  
 Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
 sleep in heavenly peace,  
 sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!  
 Shepherds quake at the sight:  
 glories stream from heaven afar,  
 heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!

Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!"

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light,  
radiant, beams from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!

### *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.

*Extinguish candles*

### **Special Music**

*Benediction*

## **Joy to The World**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive its king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.



**May the peace of Christ's birth bring you glad tiding of great joy!**

**Special thanks to all who helped lead and prepare our worship!**

**Organist:** Dorothy Bartlett

**Pianist:** Judy April

**Singers:**

Brenda Mathias

John Bartlett

Chris McLean

Christina Morgret

Payton Jackson

Madelyn Potraz

Caslyn McLean

Elissa McLean

Jennifer McAmmond

Judy April

Isabelle April

Judy Moore

Elita Potraz

**Technical Support:** Rene Morgret

**Elders:** Don Moore, John Bartlett, Andrew Tivadar, Ric Allen

**Sound and Video:** Pastor Christopher McLean