

Christmas Eve Worship Leader Bulletin

December 24, 2022

10:00 PM

Welcome to Christmas Eve worship at St. Luke's. We value your participation in our worship service and feel truly blessed by your presence. May God's blessings shower you and your family this Christmas.

L = Leader C = **Congregation** ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)

+ *indicates to please stand*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Rob*)

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (*Erickson Family*)

L: We celebrate the coming of Christ, the light of the world

C: Emmanuel, God with us.

CANDLE LIGHTING

The fifth candle is lit and this response is used:

L: A child is born for us. A gift is given to us.

C: Emmanuel, God with us.

L: Bringing your kingdom of peace to all people on earth.

C: Christ, we celebrate you here today!

SONG

“Christ, Be Our Light”

ELW #715

Cantor (Verse 5):

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come

All sing (Refrain):

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

+GREETING {*Front Center*} (*Mollee Erickson*)

L: Siblings in Christ, grace and peace to you from God, whose love is everlasting,

C: who visits us in poor and simple things and gives us joy,

L: who is never far from the broken-hearted,

C: who releases captives, and breaks chains of oppression!

L: Hear this Good News: This is the time! Christ is born!

C: This is the time! Our healing is at hand.

L: Come, let us adore him!

+PRAYER OF THE DAY {*Front Center*} (*Mollee Erickson*)

L: 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.

C: Amen.

Verse 1

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Verse 2

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,

And we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Verse 3

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

WORD

FIRST READING *{Lectern}* (Ethan Norris-Weber)

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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.**HYMN**

“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”

ELW #271

Verse 1

*I am so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and angels sang on earth.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL *{Pulpit}* (Rob)

Luke 2:1-7

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.

HYMN

“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”

ELW #271

Verse 2

*The little child in Bethlehem, he was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav'n above to help a world in need.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL *{Lectern}* (Ethan Norris-Weber)

Luke 2:8-14

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!"

HYMN

"I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"

ELW #271

Verse 3

*He dwells again in heaven's realm, the Son of God today;
And still he loves his little ones and hears them when they pray.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL *{Pulpit}* (Rob)

Luke 2:15-20

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. But 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, as it had been told them.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

"I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"

ELW #271

Verses 4

*I am so glad each Christmas Eve! His praises then I sing;
He opens now for ev'ry child the palace of the king.*

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

+HYMN OF THE DAY

"All My Heart Again Rejoices"

ELW #273

Verse 1

All my heart again rejoices
as I hear, far and near,
sweetest angel voices;
"Christ is born," their choirs are singing
till the air ev'rywhere
now with joy is ringing.

Verse 2

Jesus' voice from lowly manger
softly thus calls to us:
"You are safe from danger;
come and see; from all that grieves you
you are freed; all you need
I will surely give you."

Verse 3

Come, then, let us hasten yonder;
here let all, great and small,
kneel in awe and wonder;
love him who with love is yearning;
hail the star that from far
bright with hope is burning.

Verse 4

You, dear Lord, I'll ever cherish;
though my breath fail in death,
I will never perish:
by your side in light eternal
I shall be endlessly
filled with joy supernal.

+THE APOSTLES' CREED *{Front Center}* (Mollie Erickson)

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

+THE PRAYERS {*Front Center*} (*Mollee Erickson*)

After each petition:

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

+SHARING OF THE PEACE {*Front Center*} (*Mollee Erickson*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

L: For all who are gathered, let us take a moment to welcome everyone with a wave of peace. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat. Most all as we go out into the world may we greet others as people of peace.

Please share of wave of peace with one another.

MEAL

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*Rob*)

L: As we prepare our hearts to receive the gift of Jesus' body and blood, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

(silence is kept for reflection)

Gracious God,

C: in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

L: I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING/DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (*Rob*)

ELW pg. 144/*Screen*

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times in all places give thanks and praise to you, God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*brief intro*)

ELW pg. 144/*Screen*

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*Rob*)

+THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE TABLE/COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION SONG

"Lamb of God"

ELW pg. 146/*Screen*

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE

Screen

L: In this time of reflection and response you are invited to fill out your welcome card. Share any reflections, questions, or prayers on the back. Also, take this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered the collection plates are in the front and back. For those online please go to our website stlukesbloomington.org and there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Enjoy this time.

COMMUNION ANTHEM /INSTRUMENTAL “The Holly and the Ivy”
Lori Murray

Traditional arr. Andrew Sims

+POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (*Rob*)

L: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

+POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”
Verse 5

ELW #271

*And so I love each Christmas Eve, and I love Jesus too;
And that he loves me ev’ry day I know so well is true.*

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER {*Front Center*} (*Mollee Erickson*)

L: On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

+BENEDICTION (*Rob*)

L: Be people of Salvation. Let *Emmanuel*, God with us dwell in your hearts, and share the love of Jesus with all you meet. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

+CONGREGATIONAL CANDLE LIGHTING

+SENDING HYMN

“Silent Night”

ELW #281

The lights will be dimmed for the hymn.

Verse 1

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.

Heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Verse 3

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Verse 2

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,

+DISMISSAL {*Front Center*} (*Mollee Erickson*)

L: Glory to God in the highest!

C: Peace to God’s people on earth!

L: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE