

Christmas 2022  
Candlelight Service

**A Savior is Born**

*In the spirit of the evening,  
please be quieted when the music begins.*

**PRELUDE**

*Variations on Puer Nobis – Austin C. Lovelace*

*Still, Still, Still – Mannheim Steamroller arranged by Chip Davis*

*Greensleeves – Mannheim Steamroller arranged by Chip Davis*

*Silent Night Partita – Charles Callahan*

**OPENING HYMN** (*Please stand after vs. 2*)

*“Once in Royal David’s City”*

**Hymn 343**

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him through his own redeeming love,  
for that child, so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heav’n above,  
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor, lowly stable with the oxen standing by  
shall we see him, but in heaven, set at God’s right hand on high.  
Then like stars his children crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.

M: Dear people of God, in this Christmas season it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us—the Christ Child lying in a manger.

Let us read and learn in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God who in his right time sent a Savior to deliver us for all time.

But first, let us pray for people all over the world who would delight with us to know the good news of Jesus Christ, and who would join with us in singing his praises. Let us pray for the people of Lake County and for all those in our own congregation.

And, because this would please our Lord, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who are sad, the lonely and the unloved, the elderly and the little children. We especially remember all those who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love him, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in greater light than we, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, who died in faith, and who live before the throne of God and praise him each day in his temple. We confess that we are united with them as we are united with one another. To sum up all these petitions, let us pray as Christ himself taught us.

#### 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.**

#### LESSON

Genesis 3:6-15, 20

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

The man said, "The woman you put here with me — she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

Cursed are you above all the livestock  
and all the wild animals!  
You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.

And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head,  
and you will strike his heel." ...

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

**HYMN**

*"Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising"*

**Hymn 362 vs. 1-4, & 6**

Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the Lord with gladness praising;  
loudly sing his love amazing, worthy folk of Christendom.

Christ, from heav'n to us descending and in love our race befriending,  
in our need his help extending, saved us from the wily foe.

Jacob's Star in all its splendor beams with comfort sweet and tender,  
forcing Satan to surrender, breaking all the pow'rs of hell.

From the bondage that oppressed us, from sin's fetters that possessed us,  
from the grief that sore distressed us, we, the captives, now are free.

Gracious Child, in mercy hear us, from your lowly manger cheer us,  
gently lead us and be near us till we join th' angelic choir.

LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of the shadow of death  
a light has dawned.

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and peace  
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty  
will accomplish this.

HYMN

*"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt"*

Hymn 345

Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,  
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;  
but there is room and welcome there for me,  
but there is room and welcome there for me.

In that unlikely place I find him as they said:  
sweet newborn babe, how frail! And in a manger bed:  
a still, small voice to cry one day for me, a still, small voice to cry one day for me.

How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,  
his prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:  
a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,  
a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.

Can I, will I forget how Love was born, and burned  
its way into my heart—unasked, unforced, unearned,  
to die, to live, and not alone for me, to die, to live, and not alone for me?

LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are small among the clans of Judah,  
out of you will come for me  
one who will be ruler over Israel,  
whose origins are from of old,  
from ancient times.”

Therefore Israel will be abandoned  
until the time when she who is in labor gives birth  
and the rest of his brothers return  
to join the Israelites.  
He will stand and shepherd his flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they will live securely, for then his greatness  
will reach to the ends of the earth.  
And he will be their peace.

HYMN

*“To Shepherds as They Watched by Night”*

**Hymn 335**

To shepherds as they watched by night appeared a host of angels bright;  
“Behold the tender babe,” they said, “in yonder lowly manger laid,

“At Bethlehem, in David’s town, as Micah did of old make known.  
It is the Christ, your Lord and King, who will to all salvation bring.”

O then rejoice that through his Son God is with sinners now at one;  
made like yourselves of flesh and blood, your brother is th’ eternal God.

What harm can sin and death then do? The true God now abides with you.  
Let hell and Satan storm and rave, Christ is your brother—you are safe.

Not one he will or can forsake; his promise he will never break.  
Let ev’ry scheme the tempter try, you may his utmost pow’rs defy.

You shall and must at last prevail; God’s own you are, you cannot fail.  
To God forever sing your praise with joy and patience all your days.

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

## HYMN

*“Away in a Manger”***Hymn 340**

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 you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and take us to heaven to live with you there.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel,  
praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

**HYMN**

*“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

**Hymn 346**

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav’nly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

**THE CHRISTMAS LESSON – PART 3**

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone 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 about.”

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

**HYMN**

*“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”*

**Hymn 331 vs. 7, 8, 13-15**

Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, and see what in the manger lies.  
Who is this child, so young and fair? It is the Christ Child lying there.

Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, through whom the sinful world is blest!  
You came to share my misery, that you might share your joy with me.

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, prepare a bed, soft, undefiled  
within my heart, made clean and new, a quiet chamber kept for you.

My heart for very joy must leap; my lips no more can silence keep.  
I too must sing with joyful tongue that sweetest ancient cradle song:

Glory to God in highest heav'n, who unto us his Son has giv'n,  
while angels sing with pious mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

*Distribution of candles (See back page.)*  
**Once your candle is lit, always hold it upright.**

*Please stand*

HYMN

*"Silent Night! Holy Night"*  
**Hymn 337**

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; Heavenly 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.

PRAYER

M: When all was still in the midst of the night, Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace,  
descended from the almighty throne to dwell among us. May we receive him in  
the peace of forgiven hearts and proclaim your gracious goodwill to all people  
on earth, for he is God with us, Emmanuel, who lives and reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



**BLESSING**

M: Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good, render to no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty—the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: **Amen.**

*Extinguish candles (please hold upright until the wax hardens)*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*“Joy to the World”*  
**Hymn 353**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her 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 men their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

**POSTLUDE**

*Joy to the World – Michael Burkhardt*

## OFFERING – A Gift for Our Savior

If you would like to leave an offering for your Savior, we have an offering plate near the front door and our old wood church in the Narthax.

*If you prefer online giving, you may scan this code with your mobile device.*



***Thank you to our choir and musicians this Christmas week!***

*Monica Wintrone: keyboards and violin; Beth Rockwell: flute and keyboards;*

*Justin Wintrone: trombone; Tim Samelson: piano;*

*Louis Luedtke: trumpet*

## Join Us In Worship This Christmas Season!

Christmas Day Sunday Worship - 9 am

New Year's Eve Service - 5 pm

New Year's Day Sunday Worship - 9 am



### Acknowledgments

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***In the Peace and Joy of the Christ-child,  
Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year***