

Proclaim the Holy Birth

A Christmas Eve Service for Children and Adults



Friday, December 24, 2021 – 6:30 pm
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO
www.denverlutheran.com

Children's Entrance

Congregational Hymn

Oh, Come, All Ye Children

1. Oh, come, all ye children, oh, come, one and all, To Beth-le-hem
2. He's born in a sta-ble for you and for me, Draw near by the

haste, to the man-ger so small. God's Son for a gift has been
bright gleaming star-light to see, In swaddling clothes ly-ing, so

sent you this night To be your Re-deem-er, your Joy and De-light.
meek and so mild, And pur-er than an-gels, the heav-en-ly Child.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final two lines of the hymn.

3. See Mary and Joseph, with love beaming eyes,
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies,
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love
While angels sing loud hallelujahs above.

4. Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.

Invitation to Worship

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P There is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior. Alleluia!

C Who is Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

P Arise, shine; for your Light has come:
C **And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**
P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD:
C **God is the LORD, who has shown us His Light.**
P Unto us the Christ is born:
C **Oh, come, let us worship Him.**

Prayer

Pastor's Message

The Offering

Congregational Hymn

Joy to the World (#387)

Part One – Trees Tell Of Christmas

Narration

[John] Trees can tell the story of Christmas. The Christmas story begins with a tree – a tree in a garden long ago. God made the garden. He made the people who lived in this garden. And He loved them very much. God took Adam and put him in the garden to work it and take care of it. He told him: “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die” (Genesis 2:16-17). But Adam and Eve did not obey God. “When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate” (Genesis 3:6). After they sinned, they became afraid. And their children and grandchildren too became sinful and unhappy. Paul later wrote in his letter to the Romans: “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned” (Romans 5:12).

Choir Anthem

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising
Lutheran Service Book #375

Recitations

A Manger From a Tree

[Mary Anna] God said: “I will send a Savior. He will take your sins away.”

[Jacob] He will take away the sins of the whole world!

[Mary Anna] His bed was a manger made from a tree,
God sent His own Son for you and for me.
Jesus came down from heaven above,
To save us from sin, and show us God's love.

[Jacob] Oh, come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

[Mary Anna & Jacob] We love You, dear Jesus.

Children's Song

Away In a Manger

Scripture Reading – The Christmas Story

Luke 2:1-7

[Joshua] And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Congregational Hymn

What Child Is This (#370)

Recitations

The Tree of the Cross

[Joe] Christmas isn't only a decorated tree,
Holly wreaths and evergreen, and gifts for you and me.

Christmas is remembering a night so long ago,
A little town called Bethlehem, a manger bed so low.

[Emily] Christmas is remembering why Jesus came to earth,
Why God gave us His only Son, the reason for His birth.

Christmas is remembering the cross on which He died
For you, for me, for all of us; Christ Jesus crucified!

[Joe] Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him
stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. (Isaiah 53:4)

[Emily] But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the
chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.
(Isaiah 53:5)

Children's Song

Silent Night, Holy Night

Narration

[Jesse] The Bible tells us why Jesus was born. It says, "Christ Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24). He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.



Congregational Hymn

To Thee My Heart I Offer
The Lutheran Hymnal #89

1 To Thee my heart I of - fer, O Christ-child sweet and dear,
2 My heart with-in is glow - ing, O Christ-child sweet and dear;
3 What bro't Thee to the man - ger, O Christ-child sweet and dear?

Up - on Thy love re - ly - ing; Oh, be Thou ev - er near!
I love Thee, Lord and Sav - ior, Oh, be Thou ev - er near!
Thy love for me, a stran - ger - Oh, be Thou ev - er near!

Take Thou my heart and give me Thine And let it be for - ev - er mine,
I see Thee in a man - ger laid, Near cat - tle rest - ing un - a - fraid;
O Lord, how great is this Thy love That reaches down from heav'n a - bove,

O Je - sus, ho - ly, un - de - filed, My Sav - ior meek and mild.
I see Thy deep hu - mil - i - ty And low - ly bow to Thee.
Thy love for us, by sin de - filed, That made Thee, God, a child! A - men.

Narration

The Evergreen Tree

[John] – What Jesus did for you and me is shown us in the Christmas tree! A Christmas tree is evergreen. It tells us we shall ever be with Jesus. A Christmas tree points to heaven. It tells us Jesus will come again from heaven – and we will live with Him there. Jesus said, “In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:2-3).

Part Two – Lights Tell Of Christmas

Narration

Light & Darkness

[Jesse] Lights can tell the story of Christmas. The Christmas story begins with no light of all. The Bible says, “Men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil” (John 3:19). Because of sin, Isaiah the prophet said, “Behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people” (Isaiah 60:2). On Christmas, Jesus came “to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death” (Luke 1:79).

Scripture Reading – The Christmas Story

Luke 2:8-20

[Zachary] And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

[Congregation Reads Together]:

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Congregational Hymn

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come
The Lutheran Hymnal #85 (1-6,13)

All “From heav’n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev’ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing:

“To you this night is born a child Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child, of lowly birth, Shall be the joy of all the earth.

Men “This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.

Women “He will on you the gifts bestow
Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us His glory share.

Men “These are the tokens ye shall mark:
The swaddling-clothes and manger dark;
There ye shall find the Infant laid
By whom the heavens and earth were made.”

Women Now let us all with gladsome cheer
Go with the shepherds and draw near
To see the precious gift of God,
Who hath His own dear Son bestowed.

All Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, made clean and new, A quiet chamber kept for Thee.

Recitations

The Light of Glory

[Mary Anna] The light of Christmas got even brighter at Easter time. Jesus died for our sins, but on Easter morning He rose from the dead.

[Jacob] Jesus promises, “Because I live, you will live also (John 14:19).

[Emily] The disciples saw Jesus after He rose from the dead. All who believe in Jesus shall see Him one day and live with Him forever. “And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him” (Revelation 22:3).

[Joe] “They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light.” “He who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming quickly’” (Revelation 22:4-5, 20a).

[All children] “Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!” (Revelation 22:20b).

Song by the Choir & Children

Go, Tell It on the Mountain
Lutheran Service Book #388

Prayer for Christmas Eve

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.

Closing Hymn #379

O Come, All Ye Faithful

† † †

Pastor

Thomas Schuetze

Organist/Pianist

Lisa Sprengeler

Ushers

Bob Rankin, Wayne Ruegge

Narrations & Recitations

Jesse Cornish, Joseph Cornish, Jacob Cornish,
Joshua Ruegge, Zachary Ruegge, Emily Ruegge,
John Sprengeler, Mary Anna Sprengeler

Violinists

Lisa Sprengeler, Joshua Ruegge, Emily Ruegge



A Warm Welcome to all of our worship guests and a thank you for joining us in the celebration of the birth of our Savior. We hope that the Christmas Gospel presented this evening has been a blessing to you. Please join us again tomorrow morning for our Christmas Day worship service at 9:30 am. We also invite you to worship with us each Sunday at the same time. May the Lord grant you a blessed, happy, and healthy Christmas and New Year!

Children's Christmas Bags will be distributed after the service to all the children who are here tonight.

Upcoming Christmas Services – The Twelve Days of Christmas begin tomorrow on the 25th. We will be holding four services during this year's Christmas season:

Tomorrow	Dec 25	9:30 am	Christmas Day
Sunday	Dec 26	9:30 am	2nd Christmas Day
Friday	Dec 31	7:00 pm	New Year's Eve
Sunday	Jan 2	9:30 am	9th Christmas Day



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Member congregation of the
Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

Acknowledgements

Proclaim the Holy Birth, A Christmas Eve Service for Children and Adults, adapted from a 2006 service produced by Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, MI, David Schaller, pastor
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