

Christmas Eve



Advent Lutheran Church

8840 University City Blvd

Charlotte, NC 28213

(704) 549-1555

www.adventlu.org

December 24, 2021

Preservice Music (7:00-7:30pm)

Preparing for Worship

*Luke 2
"O Holy Night"*

Pastoral Welcome

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Christmas Prologue

L: This very night is the meeting place of heaven and earth.

For the stable is where God keeps his appointment to meet his people.

Not many nobles are here, not many worldly wise, not many movers and shakers of society, and not many political elites.

But, if tonight only strangers met, that would be enough.

For Bethlehem was not the hub of the universe, nor was the stable a platform for famous folk.

In an out-of-the-way place where most folks never thought to visit—there God keeps his promise.

There God sends his Son.

Lighting the Christ Candle *"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt"*

Laura Torrence

Christmas Announcement

L: Alleluia! Christ is born for us!

C: Oh, come, let us adore him!

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

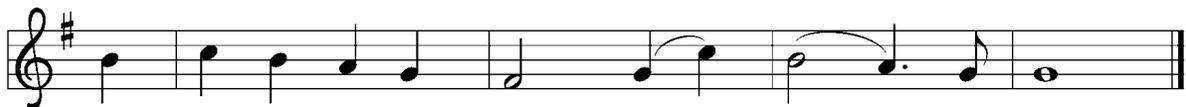


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

L: God is telling a story in our lives. It's quite a story – full of the promises God makes and our struggles to trust; full of mystery and angels with surprising news; full of hard endings and unexpected new beginnings.

Come, hear the story and pay attention to the angels' message in your heart in this place and time.

Then join all creation in worshipping the God who tells it full of grace and truth; who comes in Jesus, the Word made flesh, and makes our story holy.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis

De - o;

glo



ri - a

in ex - cel - sis

De

o.

The Gospel Acclamation

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Rob Beyersdorf

The Holy Scripture

Luke 2:1-20

The Message

Song of the Day

"Away in the Manger"



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Christmas Litany

L: Glory to God in the highest,

C: and peace to God's people on earth.

L: Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

L: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

C: Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

L: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Preparing the Table

“One Small Child” (5:00pm) Annette Nolan
“A Manger Is His Throne” (7:30pm) Sanctuary Singers
Rob Beyersdorf, soloist

The Words of Institution

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence living in me

And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me
And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup,
Gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*This is the living Lord
This is the living Lord
Your very blood given for me*

*And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you*

*This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe*

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

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.

Post-Communion Blessing

L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

The Candle Lighting

The Prayer for Light

L: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled us with the new and bright light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we are, in all we do and in all we say, that the darkness of this world may vanish, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

“Silent Night, Holy Night”



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Benediction

L: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the wisemen, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God – the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit – bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

"Joy to the World"



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

