

Christmas Day



Advent Lutheran Church

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

"What Child Is This/Carol of the Bells"

Annette Nolan

Greeting

L: Alleluia! Christ is born for us!

C: Oh, come, let us adore him!

Opening Hymn

ELW #279 *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.
So God im-parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

L: Let us pray.

God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ. Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

The Gospel

John 1:1-14

Meditation

Hymn of the Day ELW #282 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Christmas Affirmation

- L: Let the love that shaped earth and heaven,
C: dwell within us this Christmas.
- L: Let the love that created humanity,
C: dwell within us this Christmas.
- L: Let the love that overcomes suffering and hatred,
C: dwell within us this Christmas.
- L: Let the love that causes us to rejoice with loved ones,
C: dwell within us this Christmas.
- L: Let the love that forgives and renews,
C: dwell within us this Christmas.
- L: Let the love that brings reconciliation after separation,
C: dwell within us this Christmas.
- L: Let the love that brings the blessing of peace,
C: dwell within us this Christmas.
- L: And may we share that peace,
C: with all people near and far. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving

- 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.

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

- C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil, for the kingdom, the pow'r and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

The Blessing

L: 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

Benediction

L: May you be filled with wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the wise men, and the peace of the Christ child. May almighty God bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW #300 "The First Noel"



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north-west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay,
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**