

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Saturday - December 24, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.



Friends In Christ Lutheran Church

1338 Clay Street – Morris, IL – 60450

Website: www.ficlc.org E-mail: office@ficlc.org Office: (815)941-1255



Call to Worship

Welcome and Opening Prayer

(Stand)

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2, 6

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Carol: #379 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (v. 1, 2, 4)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels: Refrain | 2 Highest, most holy,
Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He
comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain |
| <i>(Refrain)</i> O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord! | 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born to be our Savior;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain |

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80, alt.; John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786 Text: Public domain

(Be seated)

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 11:1-2

- ¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Carol: #359 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” (v. 1-4)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Lo, how a rose e’er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse’s lineage coming
As prophets long have sung,
It came, a flow’ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night. | 3 This flow’r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness ev’rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev’ry load. |
| 2 Isaiah ’twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God’s love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night. | 4 O Savior, child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray
To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day. |

Text (sts. 1–2): tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.; (sts. 1–2, 4): German, 16th cent.; (st. 3): Friedrich L. C. Layriz, 1808–59; (st. 3): tr. Harriet R. K. Spaeth, 1845–1925; (st. 4): tr. John C. Mattes, 1876–1948
Text: Public domain

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1, 3-7 (KJV)

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

³ And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. ⁴ 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)⁵ to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷ 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.

(Stand)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Carol: #364 “Away in a Manger” (v. 1-3)

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

Text (sts. 1–2): Little Children’s Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt.
Text: Public domain

(Be seated)

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-5, 9, 14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Carol: #386 “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” (v. 1-2)

1	Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice; He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies; Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies. Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!	2	Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to Thee. Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child; Through Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild, Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!
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Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt. Text: Public domain

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:8-10

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people.

Carol: #367 “Angels from the Realms of Glory” (v. 1-2)

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. Refrain

(Refrain) Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
Text: Public domain

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:10a, 1-12

¹⁰The angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

Carol: "How Great Our Joy" (v. 1-3)

(#182 from hymnal *Hymns for the Family of God*)

JUNGST
German Melody
Arranged by Hugo Jungst

1 While by the sheep we watched at night, Glad tid - ings brought an
 2 There shall be born, so he did say, In Beth - le - hem a
 3 There shall the Child lie in a stall, This Child who shall re -
 4 This gift of God we'll cher - ish well, That ev - er joy our

f 1 an - gel bright. How great our joy! Great our joy!
 2 Child to - day. How great our joy! Great our joy!
 3 deem us all. How great our joy! Great our joy!
 4 hearts shall fill. How great our joy! Great our joy!
p echo

f 1 Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in
 2 Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in
 3 Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in
 4 Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in
p echo

p echo 1 heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
 2 heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
 3 heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
 4 heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

(Be seated)

Meditation "The Wait is Over; the Weight is Lifting"

Luke 2:11, 14, 18-20

**Duet: "O Holy Night"
Prayers**

Bonnie Rydell Nelson and Mark Stevens

(Stand)

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.**

The next 2 carols will be sung by candlelight (Instructions by Pastor Phil)

Candlelight Carol: #370 "What Child Is This" (v. 1-2)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary! | 2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary! |
|--|--|

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98 Text: Public domain

Candlelight Carol: #363 "Silent Night, Holy Night" (v. 1-3)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 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. | 3 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. |
| 2 Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born! | |

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820-85
Text: Public domain

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14 LSB 228

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be and abide with you all.
- C** Amen.

(Please extinguish your candle at this time)

**We end our service with JOY this Christmas Eve - just as
we will emphasize JOY in our Sunday Christmas Day Service tomorrow!**

Carol: #387 “Joy to the World” (v. 1-4)

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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