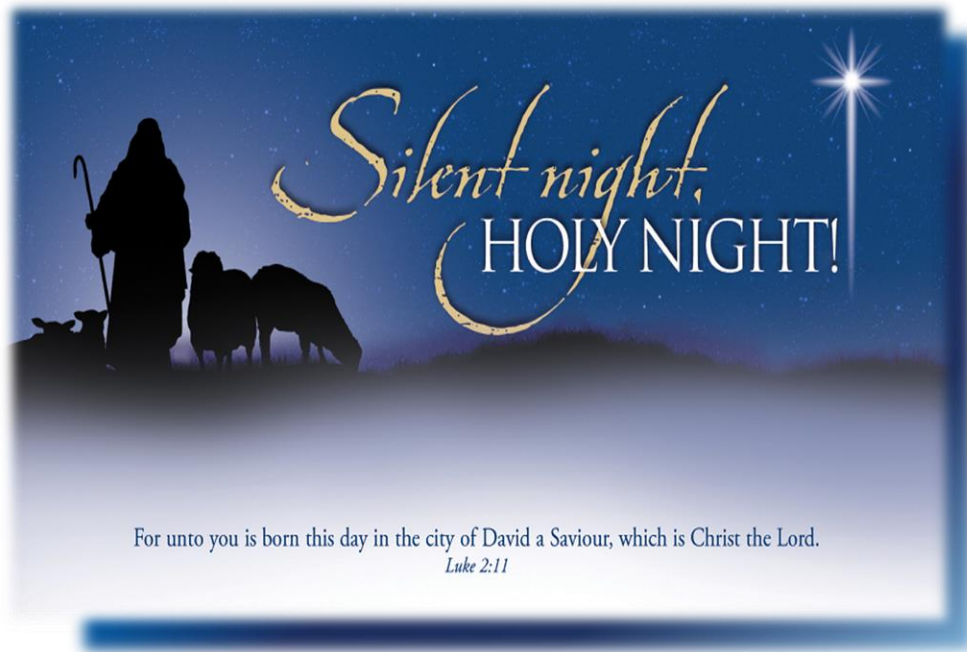


# Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Sing

Sunday – December 24, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. Worship  
*(In-Person & Live -Streamed)*



Friends In Christ Lutheran Church

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# *A Candlelight Carol Sing*

## “Let’s Glory”

*Please Stand*

### *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*

377 LSB (v. 1 – 4)

- 1 On Christmas night all Christians sing  
To hear the news the angels bring,  
On Christmas night all Christians sing  
To hear the news the angels bring,  
News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
News of our merciful King’s birth.
- 2 Then why should men on earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
Then why should men on earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
When from our sin He set us free,  
All for to gain our liberty?
- 3 When sin departs before His grace,  
Then life and health come in its place,  
When sin departs before His grace,  
Then life and health come in its place;  
Angels and men with joy may sing,  
All for to see the newborn King.
- 4 All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night,  
All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night:  
“Glory to God and peace to men  
Now and forevermore. Amen.”

Text: English Text: Public domain

### Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

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

*Please Be Seated*

### Greeting and Opening Prayer

### *Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*

359 LSB (v. 1, 3)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Lo, how a rose e’er blooming<br>From tender stem hath sprung!<br>Of Jesse’s lineage coming<br>As prophets long have sung,<br>It came, a flow’ret bright,<br>Amid the cold of winter,<br>When half-spent was the night. | 3 This flow’r, whose fragrance tender<br>With sweetness fills the air,<br>Dispels with glorious splendor<br>The darkness ev’rywhere.<br>True man, yet very God,<br>From sin and death He saves us<br>And lightens ev’ry load. |
|--|---|

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

## *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

361 LSB (v. 1, 3)

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.
- 3 How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93 Text: Public domain

## *Away in a Manger*

364 LSB (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

## *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

366 LSB (v. 1, 2)

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all,  
From heav'n's all-gracious king.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats  
O'er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–76, alt. Text: Public domain

## Angels We Have Heard on High

368 LSB (v. 1 – 3)

- 1 Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains. Refrain
- ref Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav’nly song? Refrain
- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.; French  
Text: Public domain

## What Child Is This

370 LSB (v. 1, 3)

- 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!
- 3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

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

## Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-20

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And 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. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a

sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*” \*

<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*\*King James Version*

## Meditation: "The Word in Carols"

*Rev. Phil Gruenbaum*

The Offerings are brought to the LORD's altar  
- Musical Offering "O Holy Night"

*Bonnie Nelson & Mark Stevens*

## Prayers at Christmas:

1. Glory to God in the Highest
2. Peace on Earth
3. For All Mankind

## The Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13 LSB 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.

## *We Three Kings*

*From "Hymns for the Family of God" 206 (v. 1, 2, 5)*

1 We three kinds of Orient are  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain  
Following yonder star. Refrain

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
Over us all to reign. Refrain

ref O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to Thy perfect light.

5 Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Sounds thru the earth and skies. Refrain

## *A Great and Mighty Wonder*

383 LSB (v. 1, 2)

- 1 A great and mighty wonder,  
A full and holy cure:  
The virgin bears the infant  
With virgin honor pure! Refrain
- ref Proclaim the Savior's birth:  
"To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth!"
- 2 The Word becomes incarnate  
And yet remains on high,  
And cherubim sing anthems  
To shepherds from the sky. Refrain

Text: Germanus, c. 634–c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.  
Text: Public domain

Lighting of the candles as we sing . . .

## *Silent Night, Holy Night*

363 LSB

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Silent night, holy night!<br>All is calm, all is bright<br>Round yon virgin mother and child.<br>Holy Infant, so tender and mild,<br>Sleep in heavenly peace,<br>Sleep in heavenly peace.       | 2 Silent night, holy night!<br>Shepherds quake at the sight;<br>Glories stream from heaven afar,<br>Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!<br>Christ, the Savior, is born!<br>Christ, the Savior, is born! |
| 3 Silent night, holy night!<br>Son of God, love's pure light<br>Radiant beams from Thy holy face<br>With the dawn of redeeming grace,<br>Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,<br>Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. |  |

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

*Please Stand*

**Benediction**

**1 John 5:20**

**P** <sup>20</sup>And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

**C** **Amen**

*(Please extinguish your candle at this time)*

# *Merry Christmas!*

*We celebrate the **Glory** of God because  
Christ has come as promised and proclaimed!*

Join us tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. as we celebrate  
the Father's great love that He sent His Son unto this world . . .

*Unto You!*



*Christmas Day Worship*

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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