



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
 leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.

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Opening Prayer

(Please be seated)

First Lesson:

Genesis 3:8-15

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." (ESV)

Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379 sts. 1 & 2



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

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Second Lesson:

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. 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. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. (ESV)

Hymn: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"LSB 366 sts. 1 & 4



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-ern still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

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Third Lesson:

Isaiah 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. 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. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. ... But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth ... The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and

the fattened calf together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (ESV)

Hymn: “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” *LSB 359 sts. 1, 2, 4*



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

Fourth Lesson:

Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy- the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For

nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her. (ESV)

Hymn: “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*” LSB 361 sts. 1, 2 & 4



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
4 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.
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,
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!
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

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Christmas Message

Fifth Lesson:

Luke 2: 1, 3-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ... And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 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, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 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. (ESV)

Hymn: “*Away in a Manger*” LSB 364

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

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
 Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

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Sixth Lesson:

Luke 2: 8-16

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them. “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and 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 among those with whom he is pleased!” 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.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. (ESV)

Candle Lighting

Hymn: “*Silent Night*” LSB 363

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,

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 Thy ho - ly face

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 Thy

peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
 Alles schläft, einsam wacht
 Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
 Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
 Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
 Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

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Seventh Lesson:

Matthew 2: 1-11

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him. After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. (ESV)

Hymn:“What Child Is This?” LSB 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text and tune: Public domain

Eighth Lesson:

John 1:1-5, 10-12, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God ... And 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. (ESV)

(Please stand)

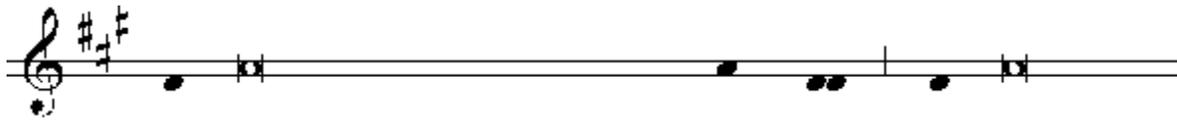
Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

(Please be seated)

Closing Hymn:..... *“Joy to the World”* LSB 387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
 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.

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Postlude

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- PASTOR:** Rev. Jason Kaspar
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Laura Gillette
ACOLYTE: Avery Harbers
LECTORS: Randy Albers, Beverly Albers
ELDERS: James Lehmann, Dale Witt
HEAD USHERS: Glenn Altwein, Harold Streicher
GREETERS: Charles & Sylvia Hebert
SOUND: Linda Streicher
ALTAR GUILD: Karen Fitch

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS are placed to the glory of God by Randy & Beverly Albers; by Michelle & Michael Dunk; and by an anonymous donor.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS are placed in honor of William & Carol Jurk by Michelle & Michael Dunk.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS are placed in loving memory of: Keith Adams, by the family of Keith Adams; Odene Crawford and Nelda & Charles Ganske by Sandy Rials & William Crawford; Geraldine & Delbert Dunk by Michelle & Michael Dunk; our parents, Jimmie Lehmann and Edward & Lorine Fischer by Daniel & Brenda Fischer, Lorine Fischer by Kathy Fischer; all COVID victims by La Verne and Karen Fitch; husband & dad Harold Hunger, by Peggy & Heath Hunger; Irene Koopmann by Werner (Johnny) Koopmann; Werner & Louise Koopmann by Martin & Karen Koopmann, Johnny Koopmann, Wayne Koopmann and Judy Zuhn; Sheila Kappler & Rachel Midgett by Garland and Stell Midgett; Herbert "Check" Moerbe and Fritz & Frieda Lehmann by Rosie, Danny & Miriam Moerbe; Kermit Muske, by Josie Muske; husband, Joe Poncik, father, Rudolph Hoffmann, & parents, Emil & Gladys Simek by Linda Poncik; her mother Gloria Fordyce and brother James Fordyce, by Harold & Linda Streicher; our parents Rev. Walter & Elisabeth Streicher and our brothers-in-law Tom Hardaway and Don Doctor, by Ralph, Harold & Linda Streicher; Katie Teinert by Lee and Janice Teinert; loved ones by B. J. Ullrich; our parents by James and Mary Walker; Alfred Weber, by Dorothy Weber; Brice Kuhlmann, Greg Kuhlmann, Tom & Barbara Wilson by Debbie Wilson; Kelsey Pietsch & Eugene Winkler by Faye Winkler; Eugene Winkler and Matt Buscha by Dennis & Sherry Winkler; grandmas, Vivian Witt Matthews & Lena Behrens, by Dale Wayne Witt; Jim Zuhn and William & Hilma Zuhn by Judy Zuhn.

Christmas Eve Service Festival of



The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a format for worship celebrating the birth of Jesus at Christmas. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in short Bible readings interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols and hymns.

The format was based on an order by Edward White Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for Christmas Eve, 1880, in Truro, Cornwall, England. It has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world, the best-known version annually broadcast from King's College, Cambridge, England. Over the years the Lessons and Carols practice has grown in popularity and is especially fitting for a Lutheran service as the reading of the Word and singing of hymns exemplify the Lutheran experience and heritage.

The following people were in attendance at the **December 24, 2020** worship service:

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