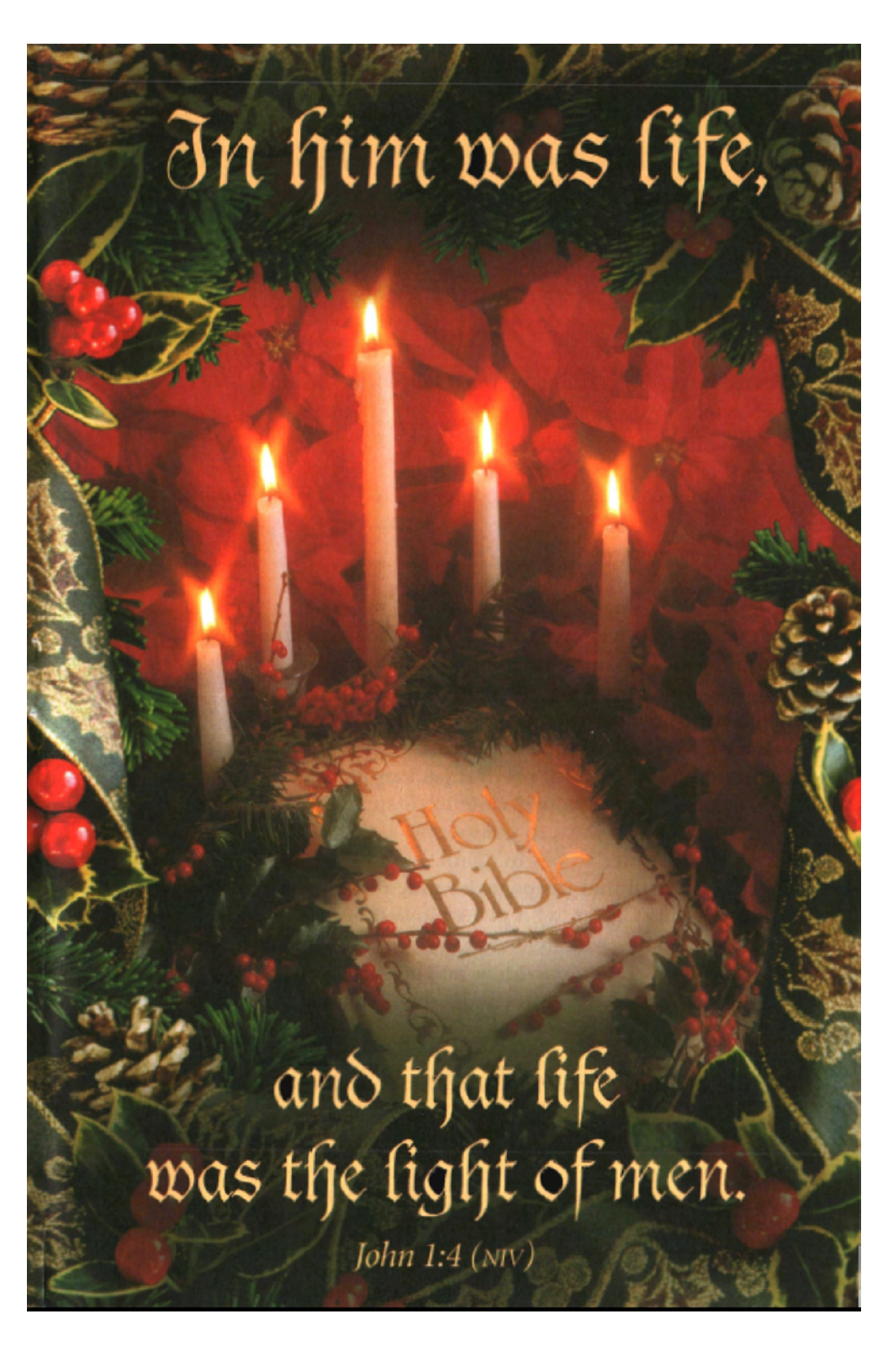




In him was life,

and that life
was the light of men.

John 1:4 (NIV)

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Please maintain silence in the Sanctuary as we prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

“Clair De Noël”

Kari Novilla

Arranged: David Ice

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God-with-us,

C: we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty.

We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.

We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging.

Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.

Turn us from our ways to your ways.

Grant us the grace to begin again.

Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

P: Hear the good news and rejoice!

You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
† forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ELW 283

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

We Sit

A reading from the prophets Isaiah 9: 2-7 (NRSV)

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

You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Carol

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

ELW 272
vv. 1, 2

A reading from Paul Titus 2: 11-14 (NRSV)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Carol

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

ELW 244
vv. 1, 2

Christmas Gospel Luke 2: 1-4 (NRSV)

Olwynne Crampton

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

Carol

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ELW 279
vv. 1, 4

Christmas Gospel Luke 2: 5-7 (NRSV)

Olwynne Crampton

He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Christmas Gospel Luke 2: 8-14 (NRSV)

Olwynne Crampton

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’

Carol

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

ELW 289

vv. 1, 3

Christmas Gospel Luke 2: 15-20 (NRSV)

Olwynne Crampton

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SERMON

Rev. Bob Miller

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

We stand

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

A: Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of Grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict (*places experiencing war or violence may be named*). God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy (*especially*). God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows (*local joys and concerns may be named*). God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

We sit

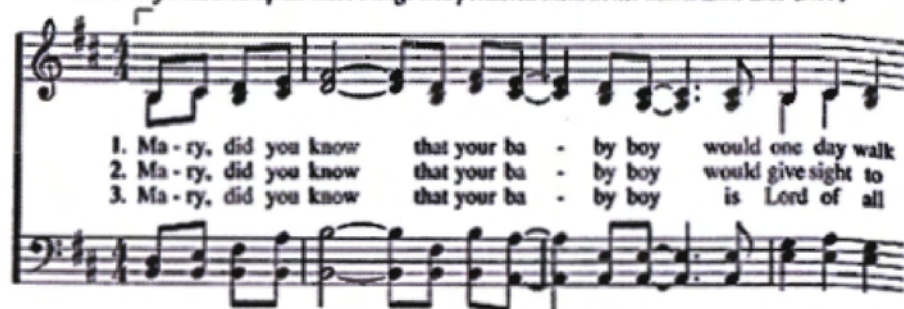
OFFERING

BIRTH, CHRISTMAS

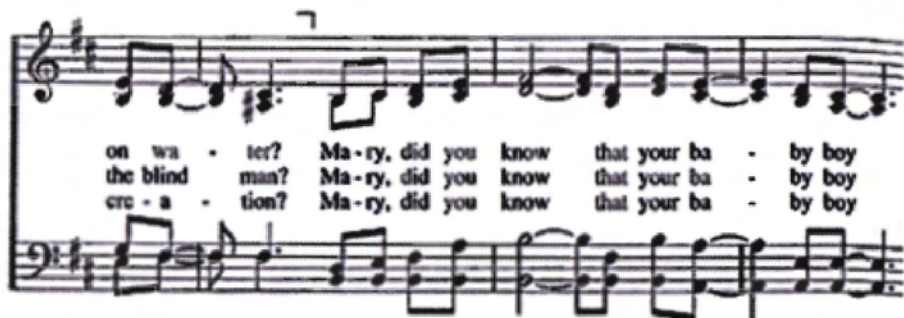
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Mary, Did You Know?

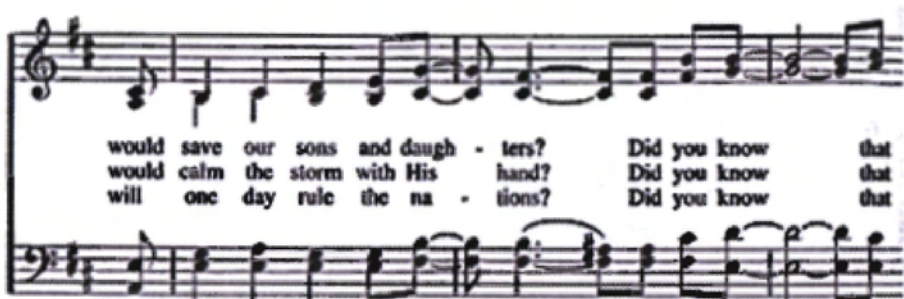
But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19 (NIV)



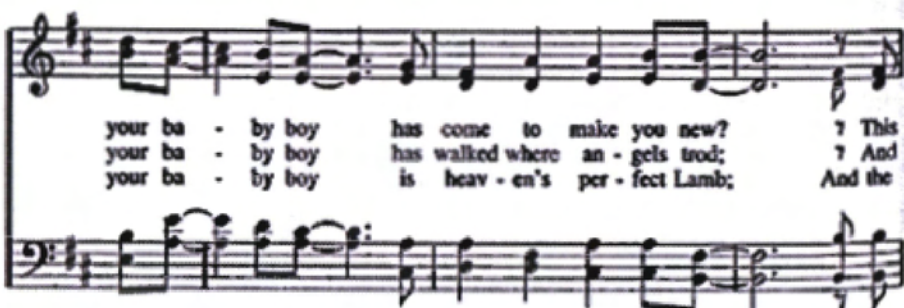
1. Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy would one day walk
 2. Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy would give sight to
 3. Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy is Lord of all



on wa - ter? Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy
 the blind man? Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy
 cre - a - tion? Ma - ry, did you know that your ba - by boy



would save our sons and daugh - ters? Did you know that
 would calm the storm with His hand? Did you know that
 will one day rule the na - tions? Did you know that



your ba - by boy has come to make you new? 7 This
 your ba - by boy has walked where an - gels trod; 7 And
 your ba - by boy is heav - en's per - fect Lamb; And the

Third time to Coda ♪

Child that you've de-liv-ered will soon de-liv-er you.
when you kiss your ba-by you've kissed the face of God?
sleep-ing Child you're hold-

[1. D.C.] [2.] *Bridge*

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the

dead will live a-gain. The lame will leap, the

D.C. al Coda ♪

dumb will speak the prais-es of the Lamb!

♪ Coda

molto rit.

-ing is the great I AM!

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: God of heaven and earth, from the beginning,
you have called forth life, in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation
from day to day. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

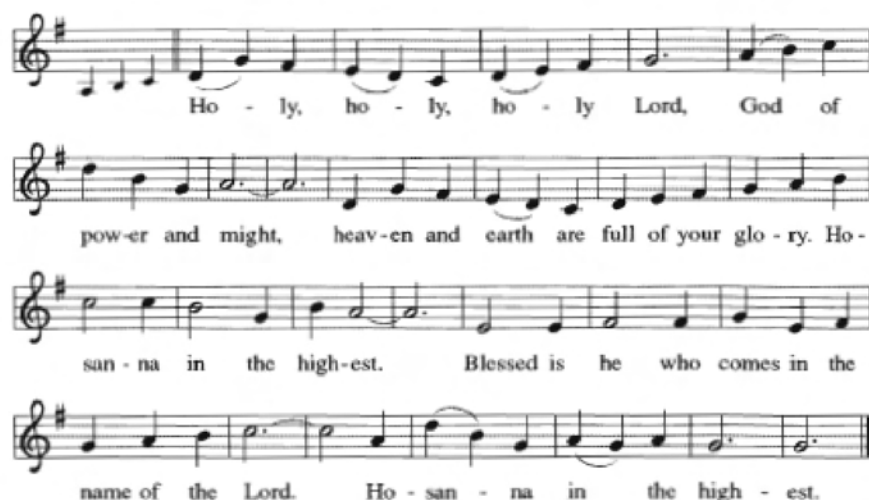
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

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.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word
dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

P: A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.

Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (*AGNUS DEI*)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION CAROLS

“What Child is This”

ELW 296 v 1

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ELW 270 v 1

“The First Noel”

ELW 300 v 1

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

ELW 282 v 1

“Once in Royal David’s City”

ELW 269 v 1

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE (*NUNC DIMITIS*)

ELW 113

5113



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Merciful God,
we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.
Strengthened by this goodness,
send us forth to announce your peace,
comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.

C: Amen.

Ushers dim the lights

John 1: 1-14 (NRSV)

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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Hebrews 1: 1-4 (NRSV)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

→ *Ushers will light the first candle from the Christ candle and then pass the light to the congregation. Please light your candle by tipping the UNLIT candle into the lit candle. As you light the next person's candle, please say "the light of Christ."*

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.

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!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BENEDICTION

P: The God of love, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
lavish you with grace, illumine your path,
and increase your joy, today and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Joy to the World!"

ELW 267

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: Thanks be to God!

Worship Notes

- "Tonight we celebrate the "Christ Mass". Mass is from the Latin word, *Messo*, which means "Sending". Having heard the Word and having been nourished by the Word made flesh again in communion, we are sent out to bring the Word to others.
- "Light is used throughout the service to visually proclaim the Gospel; God has become what we are, so that all nations may know Christ as Lord! Again, as we go forth tonight, let us go and bear that light to the nations.
- "We sing the Post-Communion Canticle, "Now Lord, let you servant go in peace..." These are the words of Simeon, after the baby Jesus was circumcised in Luke 2: 21-35.

Reminders & Announcements

Communion Assistant: Matt Bergstresser

Communion Setup: Wylene Hinkle

Harpist: Kari Novilla

Lector: Felicia Brandt

Organist/Choir: Karoline Van Horn

Gospel Storyteller: Olwynne Crampton

Zoom: Ric Van Horn

Poinsettias given this Christmas

In loving memory of Troy Absher

by Rhonda Chalcraft

In honor of our children & grandchildren

Phil, Sandee, Andrew, & Eric Jarrell,

Rebecca Wassum & Hailey Wassum

by Betty & Jack Lowe.

In loving memory of Ivan Crampton, Stephanie Crampton, &

Lynette Gochez

by Olwynne Crampton & Barry Pochron

In honor of Jo Roe, Pat Hancock, & Paul Hancock

by Shannon & Amy Hancock

In loving memory of Amy's father, Don Roe,

by Shannon & Amy Hancock

In loving memory of Raymond Knoll

by the Kubis Family

*In loving memory of Chuck Kubis & Carol Kubis
by the Kubis Family*

*In loving memory of Karen White
by the Kubis family*

*In loving memory of Adam Knoerr
by the Kubis family*

*In loving memory of Rose Dubuc
by the Kubis Family*

*In loving memory of H. Angela Bell
by James H. Bell*

*In honor of our children, grandchildren, & siblings
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In honor of Myriah & Trevor Krebs
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In loving memory of parents & grandparents
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In loving memory of Herbert Werner
by Mike & Chris Thompson*

*In loving memory of Dianne Hall's Family
by Dianne Hall*

*In loving memory of Judith Ann Hall
by Darryl Hall*

*In honor of our 51st anniversary
by Ed & Judy Skorski*

*In honor of our children & grandchildren
by Ed & Judy Skorski*

*In loving memory of Susan Zokoe
by Ed & Judy Skorski*

*In honor of my Good Shepherd family
by Sally N. Allen*

*In loving memory of Carroll Allen
by Sally N. Allen*

*In honor of our children, their partners, & their children
by Theron & Ann Conklin*

*In memory of Charles & Mary Wetzel
by Theron & Ann Conklin*

*In memory of Tom & Ramona Conklin
by Theron & Ann Conklin*

*In loving memory of Linda Wetzel
by Theron & Ann Conklin
In loving memory of Tom Conklin
by Theron & Ann Conklin*

COMING UP AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Sunday, December 29	First Sunday of Christmas 10:00 am Worship Service
Sunday, January 5	Second Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany 10:00 am Worship Service
Tuesday, January 7	6:00 pm American Legion
Thursday, January 9	6:30 pm Mission Council
Sunday, January 12	Baptism of Our Lord 10:00 am Worship Service
Sunday, January 19	Second Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 am Worship Service
Monday, January 20	10:00 am—12:00 pm Food Pantry
Sunday, January 26	Third Sunday after Epiphany 10:00 am Worship Service
Sunday, February 2	Presentation of Our Lord 10:00 am Worship Service
Tuesday, February 4	6:00 pm American Legion
Sunday, February 9	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday, February 14	4:00 pm—6:00 pm Community Dinner
Thursday, February 13	6:30 pm Mission Council
Sunday, February 16	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am Worship Service



We Remember in Prayer



Members - *Healing, comfort, & strength*

Ric Van Horn
Cody Nelson
Robert French

Family & Friends - *Healing, comfort, strength, & peace*

Family and Friends of Joseph Pochron, father of Barry Pochron, *comfort in sorrow*

Family and Friends of Michael Bates, friend of Mike and Chris Thompson, *comfort in sorrow*

Family & friends of Larry Wheeler, nephew of Wylene Hinkle, *comfort in sorrow*

Harley Carr, father of Pastor Bill Carr

Carol DeBrian, sister-in-law of Ed and Judy Skorski

Kara Van Deusen, friend of Pastor Bill Carr

Pete Bowers, Sally Allen's nephew

Troy Werner, son of Steve and Cindy Werner

From the Community - *Guidance, comfort, healing, strength, and peace*

Kimberly Bass

Brittany Bass

Cheryl Lynn Dusser

De Anna Baxley

Darlene Rosenbalm

Military Serving our Country - *Protection, comfort, & strength*

John Gray, Joshua Gray's brother

Ian Anderson, Alan Anderson's nephew

Joshua Sheaf, Good Shepherd member