

2023

“Gloria In Excelsis Deo”

For the *grace* of
God has appeared,
 bringing *salvation*
 for *all* people.

Titus 2:11, ESV

WELCOME TO WORSHIP CHRISTMAS EVE

Outdoor worshipers, tune your car radio to 106.1 FM to
 hear and join in today's Worship service

*Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
 worship the LORD in the splendor of His holiness.
 Psalm 29:1, 2*

Call Statement:

“My call is to share my Faith in Christ”

Mission Statement:

*“To live my Faith in Christ I will build loving relationships
 so others will become disciples with Jesus as Lord and Savior.”*

WELCOME & PRAYERHYMN

LBW #45

O Come, All Ye Faithful!

Verse 1

O come all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
 Oh, come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels:
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him,
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Verse 2

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
 Born of a virgin, A mortal He comes;
 Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him,
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Verse 3

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
 Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
 Glory to God In the highest:
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him,
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Verse 4

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning,
 Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
 Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing:
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him,
 Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE (Based on Genesis 1:1-5)

Leader: In the beginning God

All: created the heavens and the earth,

Leader: the earth was a formless void

All: and darkness covered the face of the deep.

Leader: the Spirit of God was moving

All: over the face of the waters.

Leader: Then God said, "Let there be light."

All: And there was light.

Leader: And God saw that the light was good.

All: God separated the light from the darkness.

Leader: God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night.

All: And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Leader: Like the dawn of a new day,

All: the coming light of Christ brings Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and New Life.

Leader: The Candle of Hope,

All: Lord Jesus Christ, shine the Light of Hope, dispel the darkness and fill our souls.

Leader: The Candle of Peace,

All: Lord Jesus Christ, shine the Light of Peace, dispel the darkness and fill our souls.

Leader: The Candle of Joy,

All: Lord Jesus Christ, shine the Light of Joy, dispel the darkness and fill our souls.

Leader: The Candle of Love,

All: Lord Jesus Christ, shine the Light of Love, dispel the darkness and fill our souls.

Leader: The Christ candle,

All: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Light of the World, dispel the darkness and fill our souls. Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

(Please greet each other in the name of the Lord)

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: 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 Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. *(Luke 2:10-11)*

All: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom He favors! *(Luke 2:14)*

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray: Lord God, Heavenly Father

All: We give thanks that in Your great mercy and compassion You sent Your dear Son to become incarnate and through Him redeemed us from sin and eternal death. Enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that we may always be thankful for such grace and be comforted in all trouble and temptation, and at last, obtain eternal salvation; through Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One true God, now and forever. Amen. Veit Dietrich - reformation theologian

HYMN

Angels We Have Heard On High

LBW #71

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

Chorus

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Verse 2
 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why your joyous strains prolong?
 What the gladsome tidings be;
 Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Verse 3
 Come to Bethlehem and see
 Him whose birth the angels sing;
 Come adore on bended knee
 Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

THE LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-14

1 John 4:7-16

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS HOMILY

Pastor Jeffrey J. Lee

See the Child

HYMN

on screen

Away in the Manger

NICENE CREED (in unison)

We believe in one God, The Father, the Almighty, Maker of
 heaven and earth, Of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, The only Son of God,
 Eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from
 Light, True God from true God, Begotten, not made, Of one
 Being with the Father, Through Him all things were made.
 For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; By
 the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the
 virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was
 crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was
 buried. On the third day He rose again In accordance with the
 Scriptures; He ascended into heaven And is seated at the
 right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge
 the living and the dead, And His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, Who
 proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and
 the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken
 through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and
 apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the
 forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 And the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us be united as the
 Church in heart and mind as we go to our heavenly
 Father in prayer...

Pastor: *(After each petition. . .)* Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: . . . Accept, Father, the prayers of Your faithful people for
 the well being of Your holy Church throughout the world.
 Govern and sanctify it, with all its pastors and ministers, by
 Your Holy Spirit, that we may be kept by Your Word in true
 Faith and fervent love toward You and one another.

All: Amen.

The GREAT THANKSGIVING

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The HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

LBW pg. 89

The WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LBW pg. 89

The LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

LBW pg. 91

All: 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 LAMB OF GOD

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THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Children who have not received first communion instruction are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you by His grace unto life Everlasting.

All: Amen.

(Please Stand)

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Pastor will take a large candle and light it from the Christ candle which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World. Please tip your unlit candle into the lit candle to light it. As your candle is lit, please join in singing "Silent Night".



HYMN

Silent Night

on screen

DISMISSAL

Pastor: There was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon. When he saw the Lord's Christ he burst forth into praise. I pray that you also see and come to know the Lord's Christ as your Savior and Lord!

All: **Lord, now let Your servant go in peace; Your Word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to lighten the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.** (Based on Luke 2:29-32)

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and give you peace.

All: Amen.

*As **Joy to the World** begins please gently extinguish your candles. Please carefully hold the candle upright until the wax has cooled.*

HYMN

Joy To The World

on screen

NEXT SUNDAY December 31, 2023

First Sunday After Christmas

Readings for Next Sunday

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 111 Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

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