



FOR UNTO
**YOU IS
BORN**
THIS DAY
IN THE CITY
OF DAVID
A SAVIOR,
WHO IS CHRIST
THE LORD.

LUKE 2:11, ESV

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
CHRISTMAS DAY 2025
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Schleswig, IA
“The Song of the Angels—Hope”

AS WE GATHER

Every Christmas we celebrate the truth that our Father in heaven kept His promise to send a Savior to save and redeem a lost and rebellious world. Our joy is that He has sought us out when we separated ourselves from Him because of our sin. On this Christmas Day we celebrate that Jesus our Savior is Light for our Darkness. Everyone who believes in this Infant who came to buy us back from sin and Satan with His own blood has forgiveness, new life, even eternal life! Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life!” (*John 8:12*) How wonderful it is that we are not forsaken but that God has sought us out that we could live with Him forever!

*The coming of Christ in the flesh at Bethlehem was a concrete outward act of God in humble means that was despised by the world. The flesh and blood coming of Christ in the **Lord’s Supper** is also a concrete outward act of God in humble means that can be despised. Rather than despise it, however, God would have us delight in it! With deep thankfulness for His gift to us here we also express our deep desire to celebrate it according to God’s Will. As this includes oneness in the faith we confess (doctrine), **guests** who desire to commune are asked to speak with the pastor before the service.*

THE WELCOME

(please stand)

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN #387 “Joy to the World”

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.

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.

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.

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.

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: O heavenly Father, on this day of great joy, we acknowledge before You our deep sorrow and grief.

C: **We are the reason Your Son came into this world darkened by our sin to suffer and die for our salvation.**

(Silent reflection and confession)

P: O almighty God,

C: **Merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

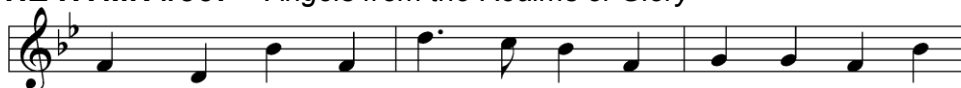
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

[John 20:19-23]

(please be seated)

THE HYMN #367 “Angels from the Realms of Glory”



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 52:7-10 (ESV)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings good news of happiness, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE Titus 2:11-14 (ESV)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

THE VERSE "Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn" (LSB 391)

**Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn, A Savior unto us is born,
The Christ, the Lord of glory! His lowly birth in Bethlehem
The angels from on high proclaim And sing redemption's story!
My soul, extol God's great favor Bless Him ever For salvation;
Give Him praise and adoration!**

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C: *(sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord!**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 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. 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 the 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. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (sung) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(please be seated)

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #386 "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,	Now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me;	I can - not rise to Thee.
3 Now through His Son doth shine	The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
4 Oh, where shall joy be found?	Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth	Poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,	O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign - ing o'er us	Through sin and van - i - ty
Where the an - gels sing - ing	With all His saints u - nite,



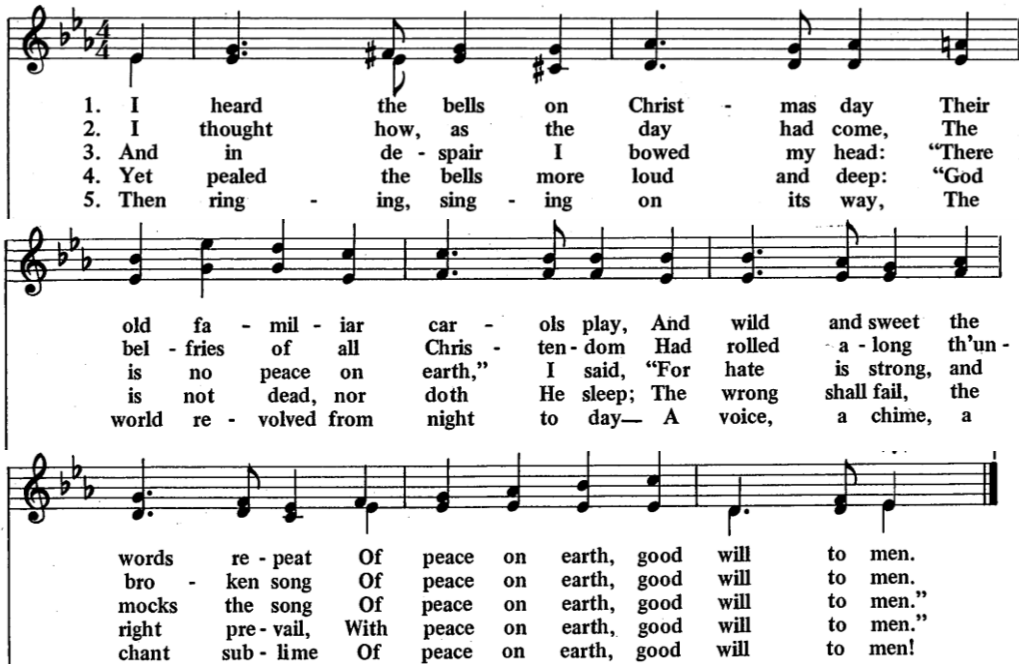
Not so bright - ly beam - eth	The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it,	Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us	A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing	In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!	Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee!	Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there!	May we praise Him there!
Oh, that we were there!	Oh, that we were there!

THE SERMON “The Song of the Angels—Hope” Text: Luke 2:1-20

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS AND THE CAROL “I Heard the Bells”



1. I heard the bells on Christ - mas day Their
2. I thought how, as the day had come, The
3. And in de - spair I bowed my head: “There
4. Yet pealed the bells more loud and deep: “God
5. Then ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, The

old fa - mil - iar car - ols play, And wild and sweet the
bel - fries of all Chris - ten - dom Had rolled a - long th’un -
is no peace on earth,” I said, “For hate is strong, and
is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The wrong shall fail, the
world re - volved from night to day— A voice, a chime, a

words re - peat Of peace on earth, good will to men.
bro - ken song Of peace on earth, good will to men.
mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men.”
right pre - vail, With peace on earth, good will to men.”
chant sub - lime Of peace on earth, good will to men!

(please stand)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Each petition concludes with this response: “Let us pray to the Lord,” “**Lord, have mercy.**”)

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT (printed on page 160 in the front of your hymnal)

(please be seated)

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#379 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

- 1) Oh, come all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him Born the King of angels:

Refrain: Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

- 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:*

- 3) Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God ... In ... the ... highest: *Refrain:*

#380 *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

1) Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2) Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

3) Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

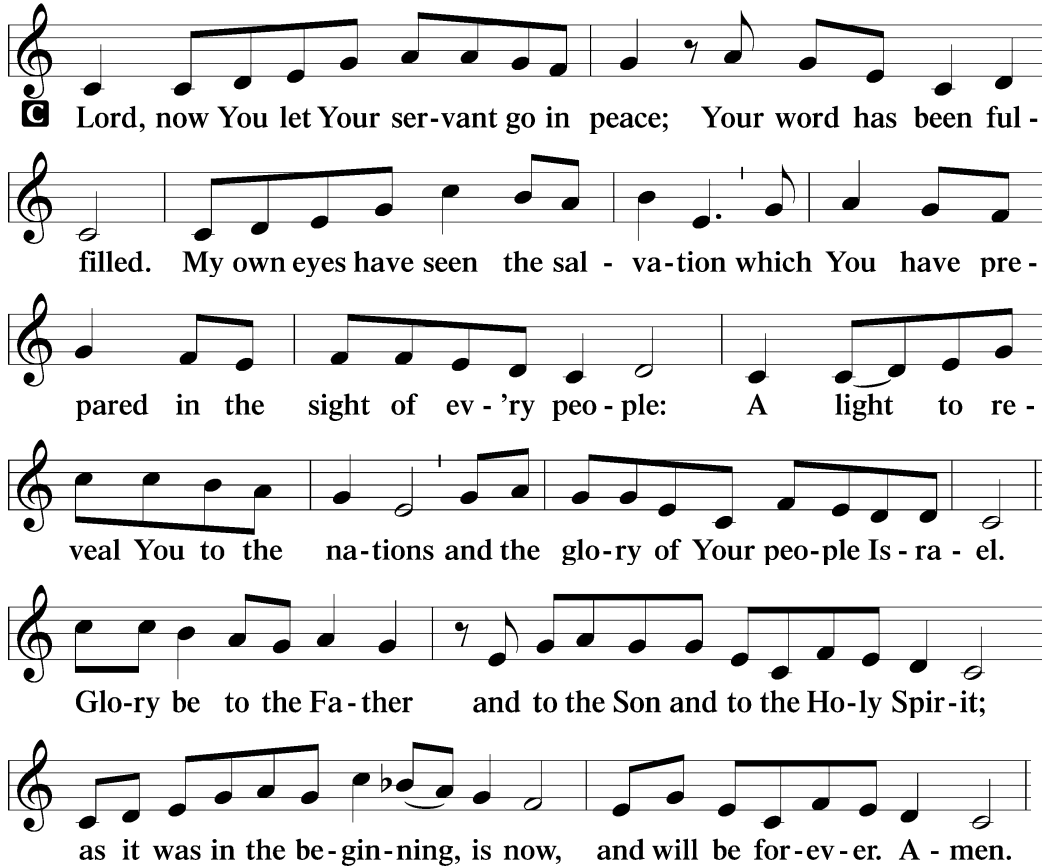
(please stand)

THE DISMISSAL

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Go in peace.

C: Amen.

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ~ *The Nunc Dimittis* ~ *The Song of Simeon*



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. 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. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: O merciful Lord, You came among us in our flesh and blood to fulfill the Law and to pay the price of our sin. We thank You for feeding us with Your body and blood for our forgiveness. Grant us the Holy Spirit that we may faithfully receive Your coming and live our lives to the praise of Your glory. Keep us from all temptations and trials and use us to boldly speak the Good News of Your birth to all people everywhere; for You live and reign with the Father and the Spirit one God, one Lord, both now and forevermore.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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



A - men.

(please be seated)

THE CLOSING HYMN #393 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Please greet one another as you leave.

Merry Christmas!



Acknowledgments

Selections from Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.
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2025 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



- * Craig & K'Lynn Harm in memory of loved ones
- * Lodean & Sandra Voss and family in memory of Louis & Alice Aldag and Erwin & Marvella Voss
- * Roger & Karin Schneider in memory of loved ones
- * Leroy Hight and girls in memory of Marlene Hight and Myrl & Sylvia Hight
- * Nancy Bielenberg in memory of Herbert & Arlene Teut
- * Loren & Marlene Lee in honor of Ray & Esther Henningsen, Darold & Freida Lee, and Dewey Lee
- * Joyce Dettlesen in memory of Guenter Dettlesen
- * Bruce & Cindi Paulsen in memory of loved ones
- * Bruce & Cathy Namanny in memory of loved ones
- * Richard Fredericks in memory of Virgene Fredericks and Taylor Marie Teut
- * Dennis & Coleen Bruhn in memory of loved ones
- * Daryl & Barb Pedersen in memory of loved ones
- * JoAnn Riessen in memory of Erwin & Elsie Riessen
- * Rick & Jodi Lorenzen in memory of loved ones
- * Marie Peters and family in memory of Richard Peters
- * Tim & Lila Bubke in memory of family and friends
- * Lowell & Julie Teut in memory of Taylor Marie Teut and Tyler Banks (our grandchildren)
- * Lowell & Julie Teut in memory of Fred & Viola Jess and Lenhardt & Anna Teut (our parents)
- * The Bruhn, Hargens, Komer, Paulsen & Wiebers families in memory of Cole Schneider
- * The Bruhn, Hargens, Komer, Paulsen & Schneider families in memory of Jason Wiebers
- * Craig & Val Teut in memory of Virgene Fredericks and Taylor Marie Teut
- * Kent, Nan and Lukas Bornhoft in memory of parents and grandparents
- * Mike & Tracy Beeck and family in memory of Larry & Jolene Beeck, Marlene Hight and loved ones
- * Loren & Janice Jepsen and family in memory of Leslie & Eileen Grell
- * Loren & Janice Jepsen and family in memory of Ruth Jackson
- * Jerry & Grace Langholdt in memory of Russell & Marie Wood and Albin & Esther Langholdt
- * Jerry & Barb Ernst in memory of Merle & Lois Ernst and Glen & Helen Comstock
- * Harry & Kay Riessen in memory of loved ones
- * Derick & Amanda Bruhn and family in memory of loved ones
- * JoAnn Clausen and family in honor of Leona & Theo Aldag and Bernice & Andrew Clausen
- * JoAnn Clausen and family in honor of Larry Clausen and Colton Clausen
- * Eric & Renae Schneider and family in memory of Cole Schneider
- * Amanda Ashbrook and Karsen Keim in memory of Mike Ashbrook
- * Wayne & Joyce Miller in memory of Ken Miller
- * Wayne & Joyce Miller in memory of our parents
- * Joel & Sandy Bubke in memory of our loved ones
- * Ryan & Kayla Morgan and family in memory of all our loved ones
- * Andrew & Kristin Palmersheim in memory of loved ones
- * Curtis & Angela Komer and family in memory of loved ones
- * Donna Harm and family in memory of Roger Harm
- * Deb Green in memory of Don, parents, grandparents and Terry

*Thank you for placing poinsettias to the Glory of God.
You may take them home after the 9:00 Christmas Day worship service.*