

Prelude: What Child is This?

(Alyssa Kenny-trumpet)

arr. Christina Harmon

Carol: O Come, All Ye Faithful

sts. 1, ref, 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!

Welcome! & Invocation

Opening Sentences

Isaiah 9:2,3,6,7

(A child to be born will rule an eternal kingdom.)

- L** Centuries before the birth of Jesus, Isaiah was inspired to write:
- P** The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
- L** those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
- C** **You have multiplied the nation;**
You have increased its joy;

- P** they rejoice before You
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
- L** For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
- P** and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
and His name shall be called
- C** **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

- The Christ Candle is lit -

- L** Of the increase of His government and of peace
there will be no end,
- P** 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.
- C** **The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.**
- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Carol: Angels We Have Heard on High

sts. 1, ref, 3



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Refrain
Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Kyrie

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For peace from the Child born to us and the salvation He won for us, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world of which the angels sang, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who fill it with their prayers, carols, worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Epistle Reading

Titus 2: 11–14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading *(Mary's baby is born in Bethlehem)*

Luke 2:1-7

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

P 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.

Hymn

"What Child Is This"

Cantor:

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?

Congregation:

**This, this is Christ the king, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!**

Gospel Reading *(The baby is Christ the Lord.)*

Luke 2:8–12

- P** 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 great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of 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."

Hymn

"What Child Is This"

Cantor:

Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?

Congregation:

**Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!**

Gospel Reading *The angels sing God's glory, and the shepherds see the baby)*

Luke 2:13–20

- P** 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 **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn

"What Child Is This"

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!

Sermon: The Child Who is the Lord

Creed

from the Apostles' Creed & the Catechism

- P** What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
- C** **This, this is Christ the King, the Father's only Son, our Lord—**
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
—the Babe, the Son of Mary!
- P** What do you believe about this Child?
- C** **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from**
eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,
who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and
won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not
with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His
innocent suffering and death,
that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve
Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.
This is most certainly true.

Responding to God's Gift with Our Offerings

Currently, the offering plate will not be passed. There is a plate in the Narthex for you to place your offering. You may give to God and the work of His Church by mailing them in, but you can also give electronically using the Church App (see "Pushpay button"), or Simply Giving or PayPal.

Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem

sts. 1, 3



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.

Confession and Absolution

- P** The Christ Child is both the Lord of all creation, existing from eternity, and our Savior, born within time to set us free from all sin and draw us into new life with God. Let us therefore confess our sins to our Lord and believe His promise.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and our sinful condition.

- P** Holy Child born in Bethlehem,
C **we are sinful from birth, incapable of pleasing You or even ourselves without Your aid. We have not loved You above all, nor our neighbors as ourselves. We confess our loveless thoughts, misspoken words, and self-centered actions.**
- P** Lord Jesus, one with the Father and Holy Spirit, who made all things in heaven and earth,
C **forgive us and create in us new hearts that we may seek to do Your will in our thoughts, words, and actions.**
- P** Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil,
C **strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and multiply our joy as we celebrate Your coming among us.**

- P** The Child is the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. As a called and ordained servant of His, 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! Glory to God in the highest!**

† HOLY COMMUNION †

To Our Guests Regarding Holy Communion:

Holy Communion is a gift Christ gives to His Church.

In it, He offers His true Body and Blood in and with the bread and wine.

It is the gift of Himself! He is really present!

When received in faith, Holy Communion gives forgiveness, new life & salvation. Those who receive the Lord's Supper at St. James Lutheran Church

are baptized Christians, committed in their faith in Christ, who have been instructed in and believe these truths.

(We run classes both for young people and adults –everyone welcome.)

God bless you!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** *The Lord be with you.*
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** *Blessed are You, heavenly Father,*
- C** **for in these last days You sent to us Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior, Redeemer, and our Lord.**
- P** *He is Your Word, inseparable from You,*
- C** **through whom You made all things**
- P** *and with whom You were well pleased,*
- C** **whom You sent from heaven to live on earth as a man,**
- P** *and who was manifested as Your Son, being born of the Holy Spirit and a virgin,*
- C** **whose birth and life of obedience, suffering and death, resurrection and ascension we remember before You this day.**
- P** *Gather into one, we pray, all Your people.*
- C** **As we partake of Christ's body and blood, assure us of the new life bestowed on all who believe: forgiveness of sins and joyful fellowship with God.**
- P** *Thanks and praise be to You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in Your Holy Church, both now*
- C** **and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Anthem:

(7 pm) **Noel, Noel** - Linda Spevacek-Avery

(Ryan Howard, tenor, James Lundgren, bass, Emma Matz, flute)

Silent Night - setting Aaron David Miller

(Alyssa Kenny-trumpet)

(9 pm) **Angel Noels** - Karen Lakey Buckwalter

(Chancel Chimes)

O, Holy Night - Adolphe Charles Adams

(Melanie Birnbaum, soprano)

Post-Communion Prayer

P We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You have bestowed on us the blessing of forgiveness of sins, new life, and salvation through this Sacrament.

C **Work in our hearts by Your Holy Spirit**

P that we may remain strong in the faith

C **that the Babe of Bethlehem is Your Son, our Lord,**

P who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

C **and forever. Amen.**

+CANDLE LIGHT CEREMONY+

Please tip an unlit candle toward one already lit.

Scripture:

John 1:1-5, 14

^{1:1} In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

¹⁴ 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.

Carol: Silent Night

- 1 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.
- 2 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!
- 3 Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Prayer for Christmas Eve

L *O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven, thought the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

C **Amen**

Christmas Blessing

Carol: 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.
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 return candles to the boxes located in the Narthex
upon leaving the church***

Postlude: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

-Mark Harmon

CHRISTMAS, 2020

Poinsettias and Decorations have been given to the Glory of God and...

IN HONOR OF

Victoria Newhouse
Twoey & Barbara Brayson
Great Grandson Logan Heschl
Roma Fierro
God's Glory
David & Gail Smith
Our Family & Friends
Our Children & Grandchildren
Osbelia Quinones
Our wonderful Mom & Grandmother, Valerie Scott

BY

Ann Brayson
Ann Brayson
Eleonore Heschl
The Honnold Family
Meredith Johansson
Lori Mahoney
Ted & Connie
Paul & Jeri Monthie
Wilson & Victoria Quinones
Debbie, Ed, Michael, Brit,
Matthew, Melissa, Alex,
Craig & Chris

IN MEMORY OF

Eleanor Rissmeyer
John Rissmeyer
Kenneth Peterson
Husband, Bob & Daughter, Victoria
Barbara & John Lofaro
Louis Fierro Sr. and Jr.
John & Margaret Honnold
Ray Battaglia
Olives Battaglia
Jim Mahoney
Mom & Dad & Gloria Steinhilber
Our Parents
Our Departed Friends
Shep and Genea Palmer, and Dottie Piver
John & Elsie Ziegler
Ray & Jean Pennington
Matt Saia
Diana Leisenring

BY

Judy Azzato, daughter
Judy Azzato, daughter
Judy Azzato, sister
Ellie Heschl
Ellie Heschl
The Honnold Family
The Honnold Family
Jenkins Family
Jenkins Family
Lori Mahoney
Carol Margraf
Ted & Connie
Ted & Connie
Nancy, Betsy and Lucy
Linda & Bob Pennington
Linda & Bob Pennington
Wilson & Victoria Quinones
Mindy & Craig Riha

Loved Ones
Christopher Thomassen
Angel Rivero, Sr.

Linda & David Riha
Nicole & Angel Rivero
Nicole & Angel Rivero

CHRISTMAS, 2020

Poinsettias and Decorations have been given to the Glory of God and..

IN MEMORY OF

Albert & Emma Abel
Edward & Edythe Rudin
Stephen & Nadine Szopo
Rev. James & Lillian Taylor
Terry Mix
Arlene & Edward Schroder
Mable & William Schroder
Our wonderful Dad & Grandpa Donald W. Scott

Our blessed Parents and Grandparents

Jill Murphy
Caroline & Robert Mangelsdorf
Dietrich Wagner
Tracy Boll
Art Wiegert

BY

Rudin Family
Rudin Family
Rudin Family
Rudin Family
Rudin Family
Ken Schroder
Ken Schroder
Debbie, Ed, Michael, Brit,
Matthew, Melissa, Alex,
Craig, & Chris
Debbie, Ed, Michael, Brit,
Matthew, Melissa and Alex
Sylvester Family
Eileen & Karl Wagner
Eileen & Karl Wagner
Eileen & Karl Wagner
Cuesta and Wiegert Families

You may pick up poinsettias immediately after the service on Christmas Day or during the week by the weekend of December 27 or at any service. Any poinsettias not picked up will be given to homebound individuals.

Many thanks go to Connie Marohn and Lois Rudin for completing the poinsettia and decorations list. We apologize for any inadvertent misspellings or omissions.