

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church

✠ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service ✠

10:00 p.m.

December 24, 2018

On a long winter evening we gather to proclaim the coming of the light. Isaiah announces that the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. In the familiar account of Christ's birth, the evening sky is bright with the heavenly host singing, "Glory to God in the highest." Amid our broken world we proclaim that the prince of peace is born among us. God comes to us in human flesh—in Christ's body and blood—so that we may be bearers of divine light to all the world.



*Inspired by Christ,
living and growing in faith,
we are a loving and open community
of worship, witness, and service in God's world.*



**Prelude
Welcome**

**Processional
Hymn**
*Please stand as
you are able.*

✠ **Gathering** ✠

*Following the call of God's Spirit, the community of faith gathers,
welcoming one another and praying for God's mercy to fill the church and the world.*

We invite you to use the prelude time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

Midnight Stars Make Bright the Skies

K. Vigne

*Many ages after God created the heavens and the earth,
when man and woman were formed in God's own image;
long after the great flood, when God set the rainbow
in the clouds as a sign of the covenant;
twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;
thirteen centuries after Moses led God's people to freedom;
eleven centuries from the time of Ruth and the judges;
a thousand years from the anointing of David as king;
in the sixty-fifth week as Daniel's prophecy takes note;
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;
the seven hundred and fifty-second year
from the founding of the city of Rome;
the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;
in the sixth age of the world, all earth being at peace,
Jesus Christ, eternal God, Son of the eternal Father,
willing to hallow the world by his coming in mercy,
was born of the virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.
Today is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.
O come, let us adore Him.*

Adeste Fidelis

**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!**

**The Highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a Mortal he comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain.***

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

**Yea, Lord, We greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain.***

Apostolic Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

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 only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

For Us A Child is Born- Overture & Chorus

BWV 142 J. S. Bach/ Johann Kuhnau

For us a Child is born, a son is given.

Isaiah 9:2b, 6-7

Lesson

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. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful, Counselor, 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 onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Reading of the Christmas Gospel

The First Noel

**The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as the lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.**

Saint Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar 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. 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 first-born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Greensleeves

**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?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Saint Luke 2:8-14

In that place there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks 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 Savior, who is Christ, 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 favors!”

Gloria

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

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

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

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Saint Luke 2:15-20

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; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these 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.

Vom Himmel Hoch

**Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child,
Make thee a bed soft undefiled
Within my heart that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for thee.**

**“Glory to God in highest heave’n
Who unto us the Son has giv’n.”
With angels sing in pious mirth
a glad new year to all the earth**

*Saint John 1:1-5,
10-14*

*Please stand as
you are able.*

Gospel of the Incarnation

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 has not overcome it. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave the power to become the children of God, who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have beheld his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Baritone Aria: So Appears The Natal Day

*So appears Thy natal day, My Redeemer, hear, O hear me,
I renew my holy pledge To be steadfast true and faithful.
In the darkness I am lost, For I know not how to find
What I search for What I long for as a sacrifice I bring Thee.
Let my heart this day be Thine.*

Chorus: “Laud We the Name”

*Laud we the name of God most holy.
Praise we His name most holy. Praise with mighty anthem.
Let His be the honor and thanks.*

Sermon

*The congregation
may be seated.*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

**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 angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!**

**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, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

**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 we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

✠ Offering ✠

*Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church is supported through the generous gifts
of time, talent and treasure of our friends and members. We thank you for
your support and partnership in the proclamation of the good news.*

Tenor Aria: “Lord, My Thanks to Thee”

*Lord, my thanks to Thee. Lord, I praise Thy name and fame.
Then my lot through Thy compassion Thou hast raised in Thine own fashion.
And thou art my saving grace.*

Solo

In dulci jubilo

**Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;**

Offertory
Please stand.

**Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

✠ Meal ✠

We lift our hearts with praise and thanksgiving as the table is set, and we receive the bread and wine—the humble meal through which we are fed by the presence of Jesus the Christ and united as the body of Christ in the world.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, as you once visited us in the birth of Jesus, visit us now by the power of your Spirit in these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be to us the Body and Blood of Christ, the banquet of heaven here on earth.

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.”

Blessed God, shed your grace brighter than starlight on us that we may bear your good tidings to all and renew the weary world in your name: the name of Emmanuel – God-With-Us, to whom we give honor and glory in joy, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord’s Prayer

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.

Offertory Prayer

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to me all who are tired and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. The table is ready. All are welcome.

Distribution

Communion is by common cup or intinction: For the common cup, receive a piece of the bread, and drink from the white chalice. For intinction dip the bread into the brown cup with the wine (dark) or grape juice (light) as you prefer, then eat. At Lake of the Isles, we practice open communion. All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are welcome at this table. Gluten free wafers are available in the silver cup.

Soprano Recitative: “Immanuel! O Give to Me”

*Immanuel! O give to me in Thy great mercy
That which my faith and spirit fain would have,
How can I tell Thee all of my poor heart’s emotion,
Which this Thy birthday wakes within me,
O Let my voice be raised So that I may sing Thy praise.*

Soprano Aria: “Lord, I Sing Thy Name”

*Lord, I sing Thy name forever.
For I am through Thee redeemed.
Nothing clouds my spirit, And my heart through Thy great favor
Finds its bounteous strength in Thee.*

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

On this day, O God, you gave us Jesus your Son to save us. As you sent this one foretold of old, send us now with good news for all people to hear. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Chorus: “Alleluia”

*Alleluia, alleluia! O praised be God,
All raise your voices, sing with thankful voices
Thou God today hast giv’n us joy.
Hold fast to Him and praise His name eternal.*

Ushers will begin from the front and midway back to light the candles of those sitting on the aisle.

Stille Nacht

**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.**

Please be seated.

Please stand as you are able.

Post-Communion Hymn

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly host 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 thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.**

Benediction

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Antioch

**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.:/:**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their song employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
:/: Repeat the sounding joy.:/:**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
:/:And wonders of his love.:/:**

Postlude

Fantasy on Silent Night

K. Vigne

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WELCOME AND MERRY CHRISTMAS

Pastor	Rev. Arden D. Haug
Organist	Kenneth Vigne
Choir Director	Dawn Allan
Soloist	Debra Gilroy, William Maus and Jared Hoke
Instrumentalists	Elizabeth York and Lindsey Bordner, Violins Rachel Haug Root and Bianca Najera, Flutes Elizabeth Loudon, Viola and Keith Root, Bassoon Joshua Schwalbach, Bass
Worship Assistant	Michelle McCreery
Reader	Kathy Hering
Ushers	Mark Hering and Anita Duder
Communion Server	Mary Sabatke, Renate Amann, Mark Duff
Altar Server	Linda Nelson, set-up; Kathy & Mark Hering