# LAKE OF THE ISLES LUTHERAN CHURCH

# 

On a long winter evening we gather to proclaim the coming light of the Christ Child in Bethlehem. May this service and devotional bring your family together to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



Adoration of the Shepherds, Gerard van Honthorst, 1622

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

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#### **Prelude**

# Welcome

Call to Worship *Isaiah 9:2-6* 

# ■ 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 prelude time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

# Frohe Hirten, eilt, ach eilet

Christmas Oratorio, BWV 248 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

#### \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;

authority rests on his shoulder 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. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be. Amen.

# Processional Hymn

Antioch

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let every 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.:/:

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.:/:

# **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

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.

# Children's Message

### \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

#### Still, Still, Still

arr Norman Luboff

Still, still, still One can hear the falling snow
For all is hushed The world is sleeping
Holy star, its vigil keeping
Still, still, still One can hear the falling snow

Sleep, sleep, sleep 'Tis the eve of our Saviour's birth
The night is peaceful all around You
Close Your eyes Let sleep surround You
Sleep, sleep, sleep 'Tis the eve of our Saviour's birth

Dream, dream, dream Of the joyous day to come
While guardian angels without number
Watch You as You sweetly slumber
Dream, dream, dream Of the joyous day to come

#### 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.

#### All

# Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, No crib for his bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay; The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing the poor baby wakes, The little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.



#### Saint Luke 2: 8-16



Gloria



Saint Luke 2:17-20

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!" 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.

### Angels We Have Heard on High

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

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherd, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo.

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.

#### Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'ry where; Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens There shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled When, lo, above the earth Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

Sermon

Anthem

#### \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

## Ah, Dearest Jesu, Holy Child

Martin Luther/Robert Wetzler Ah, dearest Jesu, Holy Child, Make thee a bed, soft undefiled, Within my heart, that it may be A quiet chamber kept for thee. To us this night is born a Child Of Mary, chosen mother mild; This little Child, of lowly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.

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Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church is supported through the generous gifts of time, talent and treasure of our friends and members. In order to fulfill our mission and ministry, we need to receive approximately \$6,000 in offerings each week.

We thank you for your support and partnership in the proclamation of the good news.

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!

# ■ Service of Holy Communion ■

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.

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.

Come to me all who are tired and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. The table has been prepared. All are welcome.



Offertory Carol

Congregation please

stand as you are able.

Lord's Prayer

**Invitation to Communion** 

Please be seated.

#### Distribution

Holy Communion will begin in the front of the church, nearest where the pastor and assisting minister will distribute the bread and wine. Please take either a glass of red wine or white grape juice from the full tray and place your emptied glass into the extra tray which is in front of the first pew.

Your offerings will also be received as the usher directs you toward the front of the church for communion.

#### Gesù Bambino

Pietro Yon

When blossoms flower e'er 'mid the snows, Upon a winter night, Was born the child, the christmas rose, The king of love and light. The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced; And at his blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced.

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him Christ the lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows To greet the holy night, That gave the world it's christmas rose, Its king of love and light Let ev'ry voice acclaim his name, The grateful chorus swell From paradise to earth he cameThat we with him might dwell.

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him O come let us adore him Christ the lord.

When blossoms flower e'er 'mid the snows, Upon a winter night, Was born the child, the christmas rose, The king of love and light. Let ev'ry voice acclaim his name, The grateful chorus swell From paradise to earth he came Hosanna Christ the Lord!

# It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear That glorious song of old From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold Peace on the earth, good will to men From heaven's all gracious King The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing

Still through the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled And still their heavenly music floats O'er all the weary world Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hovering wing And ever o'er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing

All ye beneath life's crushing load Whose forms are bending low Who toil along the climbing way With painful steps and slow Look now for glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing O rest beside the weary road And hear the angels sing.

#### **Communion Music**





# Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen.

## Candlelight

Ushers will begin from the front to back to light the candles of those sitting on the aisle. Turn to light the candle of the person sitting next to you. Please **tip the unlit candle** to receive the flame and take care to hold your lighted candle **upright** to avoid dripping wax.

# O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees Oh hear the angel voices
Oh night divine Oh night when Christ was born
Oh night divine, Oh night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim

# Silent Night, Holy Night

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 Heavenly 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 thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Please stand as you are able.



#### **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.** 

## **Closing Hymn**



## 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!"

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!"

**Postlude** 

# Grand Chœur: Sortie pour Noël

César Franck (1822-1890)

You are free to leave during the Postlude or remain to enjoy the offering of music and praise.

#### **WORSHIP LEADERS**



Follow us:









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Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM to Noon

