

# LAKE OF THE ISLES LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE ✠

DECEMBER 24, 2023

*In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ Child. The prophets of the Old Testament foretold the light of the long-promised king would illuminate the world and bring endless peace and justice. The New Testament authors remind us the grace of God in Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels over Bethlehem declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shone in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.*



*Breton Village in the Snow, Paul Gauguin, 1894*

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*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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## ✠ 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.*

Prelude

*Christmas in Sicily*

Pietro Alessandro Yon (1886-1943)

Welcome



Call to Worship

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.

Processional Hymn

*Please stand as  
you are able.*

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**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  
*Please be seated.*

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.**

## ✠ Mass of the Shepherds ✠

Pietro A. Yon (1886-1943)

*Kyrie & Gloria*

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy  
Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.  
We praise you; we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,  
Lord, Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father.  
Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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  
*Children are invited to  
come forward, parents  
are welcome, as well.*



### *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.

*The gifts for the children are given by Lee Wilson*



## ✠ The Reading of the Christmas Gospel ✠

*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.

*What Child is This?*

**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!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?**

**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!**



*Saint Luke 2: 8-16*

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*

**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; 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.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**



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. 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

*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 exaltation 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 came That 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!



## ✠ Offering ✠

*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 \$7,900 in offerings each week.*

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

Offertory Carol  
*Please stand  
as you are able.*

### *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart, and soul, and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;

Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

## ✠ 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.**

P: All glory and honor be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator,  
ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who for love of our fallen race humbled himself, was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit, and lived as one of us. In this mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused his light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.

Therefore with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, and all the company of heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise.

*Sanctus*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

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.

*Benedictus*



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

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.**

Invitation to  
Communion  
*Please be seated.*

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

*Agnus Dei*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us;  
Grant us peace. Amen.

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.*

Communion Music



*O Holy Night*

Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)

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

*Concerto Pastorale: V. Minuet & Trio*

Johann Christoph Pez (1664-1716)

*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!"**



Post-Communion  
Blessing

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

C: **Amen.**



## Candlelight

*Please stand  
as you are able.*



*Ushers 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.  
**Tip the unlit candle** to receive the flame &  
take care to hold your lighted candle **upright** to avoid dripping wax.*

### *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.**

## 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



### *Joy to the World*

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
:/: And heaven, and nature sing.:/:  
Joy to the world! The Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs 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

### *Concerto Pastorale: IV. Aria Pastorale*

Johann Christoph Pez (1664-1716)

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

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## YOUR WORSHIP LEADERS THIS EVENING

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Pastor .....	<i>Rev. Dr. Arden D. Haug</i>
Organist .....	<i>Dr. Kristina Rizzotto</i>
Chimes .....	<i>Paul McKenzie</i>
Worship Assistant .....	<i>Kathy Hering</i>
Communion Assistant .....	<i>Steve Hoyt</i>
Readers .....	<i>Andrew, Jack, &amp; Winnie Ulland</i>
Altar Servers .....	<i>Cathy Carlson &amp; Kathy Hering</i>
Children's Ministry .....	<i>Diane LaMere</i>
1st Violin .....	<i>Dr. Elizabeth York</i>
2nd Violin .....	<i>Devan Moran</i>
Flute .....	<i>Dr. Rachel Haug</i>
Viola .....	<i>Elizabeth Loudon</i>
Cello .....	<i>Ute Zahn</i>
Bass .....	<i>Dr. Josh Schwalbach</i>
Soprano Soloist .....	<i>Debra Gilroy</i>
Tenor Soloist .....	<i>Sean Lundquist</i>
The Holy Family .....	<i>Ryan &amp; Kayla Hoel &amp; family</i>
Ushers .....	<i>Bill &amp; Kathy Fredell</i>

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## POINSETTIAS

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### GIVEN BY    IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF

John Bergford	Beverly Sue Bergford
Mike & Lizbeth Brown	
Marty & Mary Knoblauch Carlson	
Casey & Andrea Christy	Mariane Patane
Mark Duff & Michelle McCreery	Dona Joan Cone Duff & Marilyn Rosine Kessler McCreery
Mary Flynn	
Bill & Kathy Fredell	Our Parents
Phil Friedlund & Lisa Isenberg	All who brought us peace and joy this year
David & Mary Goplen	Our Parents
Rick Gripentrog	Warren, Julane & Lon Gripentrog
David & Carolyn Hagford	Loved ones
Mark & Kathy Hering	Our Parents
Ellie Holmquist	Her family
Mike & Cindy Huttner	Bill & Virginia Huttner; Roger & Gloria Froelich
Mary Jubenville	LOTI Staff
Tanner Larson	
Ruth Lee	Jim Lee
Brenda Martensen	
John & Lisa Mittelsteadt	Rev. Milo Gronseth; Bernard & Carol Mittelsteadt
	Dilliana & Marcus Mittelsteadt's First Wedding Anniversary
Dilliana & Marcus Mittelsteadt	
Rebecca & Shannon Morell	The Kuehn/Ramos Family
Linda Nelson	
Rick & Suzanne Pepin	
Mary Sabatke	Bruce Sabatke
Wendy Westerberg	Donald & Inga Westerberg



*You may take your flowers home after the service.  
The list of flower donations is posted on the Christy Room door.*





1936-2023

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

Follow us:



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612 377-5095

[churchoffice@loti.org](mailto:churchoffice@loti.org) ✉ [pastor@loti.org](mailto:pastor@loti.org) ✉ [loti.org](http://loti.org)

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM to Noon



ELCA