

CHRISTMAS EVE



7:00

December 24, 2020
Zion Lutheran Church
Camas, Washington

Ministers: the entire congregation

Susan Dollinger, Associate Pastor

Pam Ensley, Youth Minister

Karen Rezabek, Praise Team

Patricia Hagensen, Administrative Assistant

Church office 834-4201, email

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Hours: Mon 8-12:00, Tues-Fri 8-5:00

“As a welcoming Body of Christ, we celebrate and share God’s saving grace for all.”

Organ/Piano Prelude

“What Child Is This”

Welcome – Announcements

Gathering Carols

“Joy to the World” v. 1, 2, 4 Number 267

1. 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.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains; repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
4. 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, and wonders of his love.

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

v. 1-3 Number 283

1. O, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him born the king of angels:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

2. 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

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

Lighting the Christ Candle

Guy Evans

We light the Christ candle to symbolize God’s promise fulfilled. For a child has been born to us, a Son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all.

Carol *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* v. 1-3 Number 279

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond’ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv’n! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav’n. No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin, Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

Prayer

L: Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem this night fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we share the divine life of your son Jesus Christ, even as he humbled himself to share our humanity. Amen.

Bible Reading – Denise Brech

Isaiah 9:2-7

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. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the

garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For 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. ⁷His 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.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading – LaDene Mattson Psalm 96
Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. ²Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God’s salvation from day to day. ³Declare God’s glory among the nations and God’s wonders among all peoples. ⁴For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods. ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens. ⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary. ⁷Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power. ⁸Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord. ⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth. ¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.” ¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein. ¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord, for you come to judge the earth. You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Carol “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” v. 1, 3 Number 270

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.” Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain: 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 we no more may die; born to raise each child of earth; born to give us second birth.

Refrain

“Mary Did You Know”

Bible Reading – Jean Dossett

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Number 294

- 1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.
- 2 Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heav’n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign; in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.
- 3 What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man I would do my part; yet what I can give him— give my heart.

Gospel Reading – Judy Bahl

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by

night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And 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!” ¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

“Child of the Poor”/“What Child Is This?”

Scott Soper, arr. Kristina Guerrero

Children’s Message - Pam Ensley

Carol *“Away In A Manger”*

Number 277

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
2. The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray, bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

Message

Pastor Susan Dollinger

“Still, Still, Still”

Nicene Creed – Brian Stanton

C: ***We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

“Love Has Come”

Number 292

- 1 Love has come—a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises: love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.
- 2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.
- 3 Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas; Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Sharing the Peace

P: May the peace and love of the Lord be yours this night and always. ***And also with you.***

“O Holy Night”

The Prayers

Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. Draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host. On this night in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Pause for reflection

The shepherds sing, “Jesus Christ is born!” Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the earth and all its people and creatures of every kind. We pray for healing in all places around the world especially those that have been torn apart through warfare, or strife. Teach us to care for the earth and for each other. Teach us to love and serve our neighbors. Let us consider their needs above our own. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who are cold, hungry, or alone this night. Embrace all who wander alone or have no place to lay their head with your tender care. Let us pray for all who are anxious, depressed, or ill. Draw near to those who find this season a source of pain or grief, and to all who are suffering or sick, especially those we remember aloud or in our hearts. May feel the comfort of this holy night. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the first responders, medical staff, researchers, and those who have worked tirelessly during this time of trial. We pray for leaders everywhere who have had to enforce policies that do not suit all people, or those who are exhausted and overwhelmed. We pray for teachers and administrators and parents who are all making difficult decisions about this next semester, and ask that you grace all people with wisdom. Lord, in your mercy.

hear our prayer.

We pray for new and expectant parents. Pour your balm and comfort

those who long for children. Surround families of every shape and size with your care. Strengthen families in the bonds of love and commitment. Bring healing to the broken places through your mercy and grace. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Let us give thanks for all the faithful departed who have been bearers of the Word made flesh. Give us grace to follow your holy ones in lives of faith and commitment, that we may we join with the hosts of heaven in singing the praises of this holy night. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Open our hearts to your presence, that we may be transformed by the new birth of this holy night. Give us a place among the shepherds, that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the glory of your eternal light, God forever and ever.

Amen.

The 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.

Carol

“Silent Night”

Number 281

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 your holy face; with the dawn of redeeming grace; Jesus, Lord at your birth; Jesus, Lord at your birth.

Congregation hums verse 4

Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord. May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Postlude

Our thanks to this evening's musicians:

Brooke Danielson, Doug Danielson, Pat Hagensen, Patrick Murphy, Gary Ritter, Rick Schaal, Judy Swanson, Brandon Zarzana

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"What Child Is This" Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad

"Joy to the World" Text: Isaac Watts
Music: ANTIOCH; English melody arr. Lowell Mason

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Text: attr. John Francis Wade; tr. Frederick Oakeley, st. 1, 3-4, tr. unknown st. 2
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" Text: Phillips Brooks
Music: ST LOUIS; Lewis H. Redner

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Text: Charles Wesley
Music: Felix Mendelssohn; arr. William H. Cummings

"Mary Did You Know?" Text: Buddy Greene, Mark Lowry
CCLI SONG #839225; @1991, 1993 Rufus Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); @Curb Word Music (Admin. by WC Music Corp.)

"In the Bleak Midwinter" Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti
Music: CRANHAM; Gustav Holst

"Child of the Poor" Scott Soper @1994 OCP; arr. Kristina Guerrero
"What Child Is This" William C. Dix;
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad

"Away In A Manger" Text: North American;
Music: AWAY IN A MANGER; James R. Murray

"Still, Still, Still" Austrian lullaby, arr. Rick Graham;
@www.ldshappy music.com

"Love Has Come" Text: Ken Bible; @1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music;
Music: F. Seguin; UN FLAMBEAU

"O Holy Night" Text: John S. Dwight; Music: Adolph Adam;
arr. David Winkler

"Silent Night, Holy Night!" Text: Joseph Mohr; tr. John F. Young;
Music: STILLE NACHT; Franz Gruber