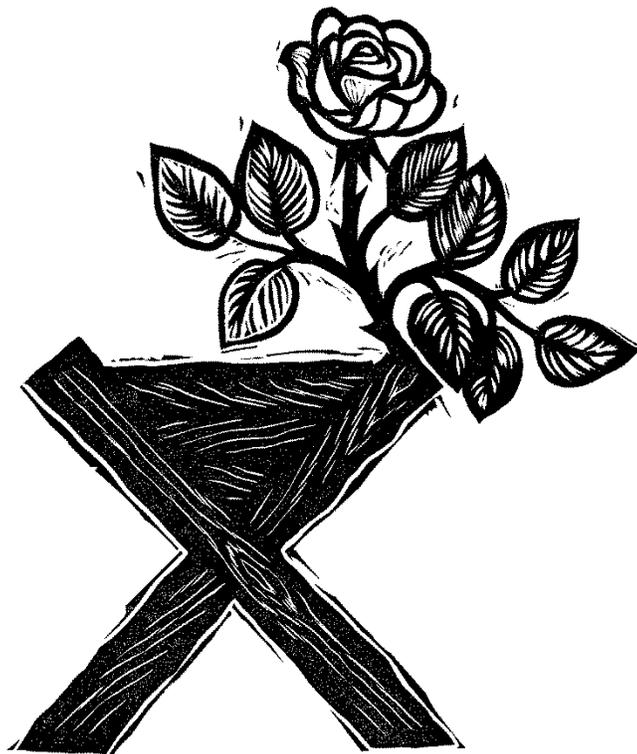


First Sunday of Christmas Lessons and Carols



*Worshiping and Growing Together in Christ,
Serving and Reaching Out Joyfully to God*

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

"Puer Natus In Bethlehem"

- J.S. Bach

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

- Winston Cassler

Welcome

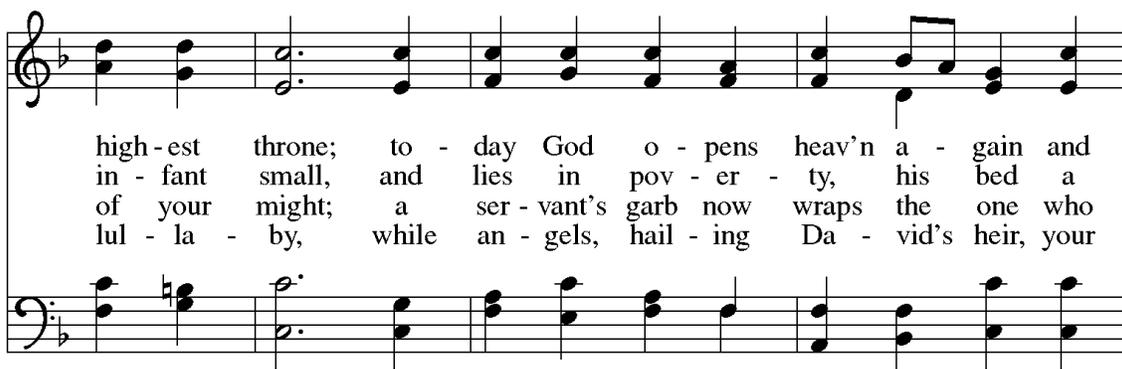
Gathering Song

Let All Together Praise Our God

vv. 1,2,3



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the
2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an
3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor
4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a



high - est throne; to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and
in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a
of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who
lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your



sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.
man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.
clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.
glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

Litany

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

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song



+ First Lesson +

Isaiah 9:2-7

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

***Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming* Red ELW 272**

**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.**

**Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.**

**This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'ry load.**



+ **Second Lesson** +

Micah 5:2-5a

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

***O Little Town of Bethlehem* Red ELW 279**

**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.**

**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!**

**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.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**



+ **Third Lesson** +

Luke 1:26-38

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

Special Music: "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

Jordan Ortman



+ Fourth Lesson +

Luke 2:1-7

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly Red ELW 276

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!



+ Fifth Lesson +

Luke 2:8-16

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

Angels, from the Realms of Glory Red ELW 275

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Prayers of the People

Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

The prayers conclude:

Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Peace

At the birth of Christ the angels sang a song of peace and goodwill.
May the peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Musical Offering

"The Work of Christmas"

- Dan Forrest

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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!"**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

Words of Institution

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

Love has come: God's love for all people. Come and eat, for Christ invites you.

✝ We Are Church. Better Together ✝

*On your way into worship this morning you should have picked up a cup with juice and a wafer.
If you did not receive one, they are located on a table at the entrance to the sanctuary.*

One side of the cup contains a gluten-free wafer and the other side contains juice.
Please open the wafer side first.

- Please use the hand sanitizer, located in the pew, prior to removing your mask for communion.
- The pastor will invite you to eat the wafer with the words *"This is the Body of Christ, given for you."* After taking the wafer, please flip the cup over and open the side with the juice. One of the pastors will invite you to receive the juice with the words, *"This is the Blood of Christ, shed for you."*
- Please replace your mask once communion is finished.
There will be a trash can available to dispose of the cup on your way out of worship.

Post-Communion Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. **Amen.**

God blesses us and sends us put in mission to the world

Blessing

May the Word that Mary brought to birth
carry you into new and abundant life. **Amen.**

May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms
enfold you with love and strength. **Amen.**

May the Word that angels proclaimed in song
bring harmony to our world. **Amen.**

And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Song

Cold December Flies Away



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Sending

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"What Child Is This?"

✝ WORSHIP SERVICE GUIDELINES ✝

- Please wear a mask that fully covers your nose and mouth **inside** the building.
- You are welcome to sit anywhere in the sanctuary. Please be respectful of the personal space when choosing a seat next to those who are already seated. Make sure to maintain social distancing when interacting with those outside your household.
- **THANK YOU** for being considerate of disabled worshippers and their families. Please leave the pew cuts and several adjoining seats available for those with walkers, wheelchairs, or electric carts and their families.

Additionally, we will have a “socially distanced” zone in the 3 back pews in the sanctuary. This space is created for those with families who have unvaccinated children in mind and those who feel more safe in a designated socially distanced area.

- Once you are in your seat we ask that you not move around the sanctuary to greet each other, but remain in your spot for the duration of service.
- You may remove your mask to take communion, but we ask that you put your mask back over your mouth and nose as soon as you have received communion. Communion will be received in your own pew—you will not come forward to receive communion.
- **HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES (4 devices available)** are located at the sound booth located in the back of the sanctuary on the east side.
- **Prayer station** is available before and after worship for candle-lighting. Please be mindful of personal space around one another.
- **Fellowship:** Once service has concluded, if you would like to greet one another, the narthex, fellowship hall, library and columbarium are available for fellowship.

OFFERING

If you would like to make a donation to the mission of Holy Shepherd, which will be used to serve the community, neighborhood and the world, there is an offering plate located at the entrance to the sanctuary. Please make checks payable to: Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church. *Thank you.*

DISPENSING OF COMMUNION CUPS AND BULLETINS

Following worship, when leaving the sanctuary, please take your bulletin and communion cup with you to be dispensed with at the entrance to the sanctuary. You are welcome to take your bulletin home with you, but if not, please put your bulletin in the recycle basket and your communion cup in the trash basket.

NURSERY

The nursery (un-staffed) will be available to use for your family, if you need to leave the service. The library and Fellowship Hall are also available



Worship Leadership

- Pastors: Michael TeKrony, Julie Brooks
- Organist: Jordan Ortman
- Special Music: Jordan & Kirsten Ortman
- Reader: Jan Eckersley
- Greeters: Rod & Jackie TeKrony
- Altar Guild: Donna Madsen, Susie DiPaolo
- Sound Tech: Karen Novess
- Fellowship Hosts: Shirley & Larry Bradsby
- Monitor: Dan Mohrbacher

Narrative Lectionary Worship Resources

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Sundays and Seasons v.20210526.0931

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