

Nativity of Our Lord



Lessons & Carols

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



Welcome! We're glad you're here!

*If you are a guest and are interested in knowing more about this community and the ministries that Holy Shepherd is engaged in, please fill out the **Welcome Card** located in the pew racks. Once filled out, please place the card either in the offering basket as you come forward to receive communion or at the information desk as you enter the narthex. Thank you and we look forward to getting to know you!*

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

"Away in A Manger"

- arr. Joseph Martin

"In The Bleak Midwinter"

- arr. Dan Forrest

Welcome

Gathering Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Red ELW 283 vv. 1,2,4

**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!**

**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***

**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*

Greeting & Opening Prayer

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

Let us pray. **Holy God, with the angels we rejoice at Jesus' birth. Give us the eagerness of the shepherds to tell all the world of your limitless love. Amen.**

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

Beloved in Christ, we come to this Christmas morning service to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, to see the loving-kindness of our God, and the Babe lying in a manger. Reflect upon these lessons and carols, praying and discerning what Jesus' birth, teaching and ministry, death, resurrection and ascension, and the cloud of a multitude of witnesses mean to you.



+ First Lesson +

Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock 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 the Messiah, 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!'

Reflection



Carol

Angels, from the Realms of Glory Red ELW 275 vv. 1,2

**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.**



+ Second Lesson +

Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.**

The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

**O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

For he is our God,
**and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

Reflection



Carol

Musical Offering: "Canon de Noel"

- Joseph Martin



+ Third Lesson +

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. 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.

Reflection



What Child Is This Red ELW 296 vv. 1,2

**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!**



+ Fourth Lesson +

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

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.**

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 onwards and for evermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reflection



It Came upon the Midnight Clear

Red ELW 282 vv. 1, 4

**It came upon the 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 all,
from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.**

**For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.**



+ Fifth Lesson +

Luke 1:67-79

Then [John's] father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us
that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness

before him all our days.
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.
By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

Reflection



Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Red ELW 272 vv. 1,2

**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.**



+ Sixth Lesson +

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Reflection

Here end the lessons and carols.

Let us pray: **Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Peace

May the One, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you always with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill. **And also with you.**
Let us share the peace and goodwill of Christ with one another.

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**

Words of Institution

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.

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

Heed the call of the angels, revel in the glory of Jesus revealed, and come with haste to the table of Christ to share in the feast of heavenly food.
God prepares this meal just for you.

Communion

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

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Blessing

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below!

You are the shepherds telling the story.

We tell it in the streets and across the land.

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

You are the angels announcing peace.

We live with joy and go now in peace.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring.
On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful king's birth.

Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad?
Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night.
All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God in highest heav'n;
peace on earth, and goodwill. Amen."

Sending

Go in peace and joy . . . shout this good news to the world!
Christ the Savior is born! Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Ding Dong Merrily on High, with O Sanctissima"

- arr. Mark Hayes

✝ **WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES** ✝

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 by the information Center. Please make checks payable to:
Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church. *Thank you.*

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: Julie Brooks, Teri Hermsmeyer
- Pianist: Jordan Ortman
- Altar Guild: Judy Ekberg

Narrative Lectionary Worship Resources

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Sundays and Seasons v.20210526.0931

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