

THE GATHERING

Prelude Carols for Christmas

Welcome

Opening Hymn “O Come, All Ye Faithful” #283 vs. 1-3

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

Christmas Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

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

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

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have seen Christ’s glory, the glory as of a Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth.

For a Child has been born for us, a Son given to us.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Today Christ is born; today salvation has appeared.

Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

Hymn “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” #290

(Refrain) Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
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)*

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *(Refrain)*

Greeting and Prayer

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

“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.

Special Music

9:30 a.m. “Ding Dong! Merrily on High” Arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

Handbell Choir

Directed by: Bev Splinter

3:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. “A New Noel” Arr. by: Travis L. Boyd

Praise & Rejoice Choir

Directed by: Tera McDonnell

THE WORD

Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

²The 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.

Hymn “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” #270 vs. 1 & 2

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!"

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! *(Refrain)*

Reading Luke 2:1-7

Hymn “Angels We Have Heard on High” #289

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

(Refrain) Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? *(Refrain)*
Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *(Refrain)*

Reading Luke 2:8-20

Sermon

Pastor Laura Overbo

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Offering

Offertory Hymn “What Child Is This” #296

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!

So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, Raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

The 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 him thanks and praise.

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.

Holy Communion

Communion will be served by intinction. Proceed at the direction of the ushers to the nearest servers. After you receive the bread in your hand, you may dip it into the wine in the chalice to receive the bread and wine together. (White grape juice and wine in the divided chalice.)

Post Communion Prayer

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

Amen.

Let us pray,

Gracious God, in this meal we have tasted your goodness and beheld your presence in the Word made flesh. Fill us, we pray, with the faith of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Amen.

The Gospel of the Incarnation John 1:1-14

Following the Gospel of Incarnation, please light your candle.

Hymn of Light "Silent Night, Holy Night!" #281

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, heav'nly 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 your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord at your birth.

Blessing

God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

The candles are turned off.

Sending Hymn

"Joy to the World"

#267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing.
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy.
No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.
He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love.

Christmas Dismissal

Go in peace, share the light of Christ with all.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Joy to the World" (arr. Young & Cherwien)

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer staff wish all the family and friends of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. May God bless us as we together seek to do the will of God who loved us so much that He became one with us in Jesus Christ.

LCOOR
Volunteers

A prayer for you:

Gracious God, we come before You, hearts filled with gratitude. We thank You for the blessing of our selfless volunteers, who offer their time and talents to serve those around them. Let joy, peace, and satisfaction be upon the good work that they do. Provide them with strength and inspire them as they seek to impact not just our community but the whole of society. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Thank you to all who volunteered to serve this Christmas Eve.
You are appreciated beyond measure.

**Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
Watertown, SD | Christmas Eve 2024**

