



For the
grace
of *God*

has
appeared,
bringing

salvation
to all.

TITUS 2:11, NRSV

+ THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD +
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020
10:00pm

A Service of Lessons and Carols

The Service of Lessons and Carols focuses on God's plan of salvation by the birth and death of his Son Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. The white candle on the Advent wreath symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

OPENING HYMN

“A Great and Mighty Wonder “ | **CW 36**

**A great and mighty wonder, A glorious mystery:
A virgin bears an infant Who veils his deity.**

Refrain:

Repeat the hymn again:

“To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men.”

**The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.**

Refrain

**Since all he comes to ransom, By all be he adored,
The infant born in Bethl’em, The Savior and the Lord.**

Refrain

PRAYER

M: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that Light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

The First Gospel Promise! | **Genesis 3:8-15**

HYMN

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord” | **CW 28**

**Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who has truly kept his word
And at last to us did send Christ,
the sinner’s help and friend.**

**Abram’s promised great reward,
Zion’s helper, Jacob’s Lord—
Him of twofold race behold—
Truly came, as long foretold.**

**Welcome, O my Savior, now!
Joyful, Lord, to you I bow.
Come into my heart, I pray;
Oh, prepare yourself a way.**

SECOND LESSON

The Promise Repeated to Abraham. | **Genesis 22:15-18**

HYMN

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” | CW 35

**Of the Father’s love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.**

**This is he whom heav’n-taught singers Sang of old with one accord;
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets Promised in their faithful word.
Now he shines, the long-expected; Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.**

THIRD LESSON

Light in the Darkness! | Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

HYMN

“Peace Came to Earth” | CWS 707
Vocalist (Verse 1)

*Peace came to earth at last that chosen night
When angels clove the sky with song and light
And God embodied love and sheathed his might—
Who could but gasp: Immanuel!
Who could but sing: Immanuel!*

**And who could be the same for having held
The infant in their arms and later felt
The wounded hands and side, all doubts dispelled—
Who could but sigh: Immanuel!
Who could but shout: Immanuel!**

**You show the Father none has ever seen,
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain,
In bread and wine you visit us again—
Who could but see: Immanuel!
Who could but thrill: Immanuel!**

**How else could I have known you, O my God!
How else could I have loved you, O my God!
How else could I embrace you, O my God!
Who could but pray: Immanuel!
Who could but praise: Immanuel!**

FOURTH LESSON

Lowly Bethlehem is Honored! | **Micah 5:2-4**

HYMN

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" | **CW 66**

**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.**

**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!**

FIFTH LESSON

Mary Receives the News! | **Luke 1:26-35, 38**

HYMN

“O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is” | **CW 40**
Vocalists (verse 1); Congregation (verses 2, 3)

*O Jesus Christ, Your manger is
My paradise where my soul is reclining.
For there, O Lord, We find the Word
Made flesh for us—your grace is brightly shining.*

**Dear Christian friend, On him depend;
Be of good cheer and let no sorrow move you.
For God’s own child In mercy mild
Joins you to him—how greatly God must love you!**

**The world may hold Her wealth and gold;
But you, my heart, keep Christ as your true treasure.
To him hold fast Until at last
A crown is yours and honor in full measure.**

SIXTH LESSON

The Record of Jesus’ Birth. | **Luke 2:1-7**

HYMN

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” | **CW 56**

**Men: Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
There he lay, the undefiled, To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place—Can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found his favor.**

**Women: Angels sang about his birth; Wise men sought and found him.
Heaven’s star shone brightly forth, Glory all around them.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing.
All the plains were lit that night; All the hills were ringing.**

**All: Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
He is still the undefiled, But no more a stranger.
Son of God, of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise his name in all the earth, Hail the King of glory!**

SEVENTH LESSON

Shepherds Hear and Spread the News! | **Luke 2:8-20**

HYMN

“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt” | **CW 54**
Vocalists (Verses 1, 2); Congregation (Verses 3, 4)

*Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel’s word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
But there is room and welcome there for me.*

*In that unlikely place I find him as they said:
Sweet newborn Babe, how frail! and in a manger bed,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.*

**How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
His prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.**

**Can I, will I forget how Love was born, and burned
Its way into my heart unasked, unforced, unearned,
To die, to live, and not alone for me,
To die, to live, and not alone for me?**

EIGHTH LESSON

Christmas Peace for Everyone! | **Matthew 2:1-12**

HYMN

“What Child is This” | **CW 67**

Men: **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!**

Women: **Why lies he in such mean estate
Where oxen now are feeding?
Good Christians, fear; For sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through;
The cross he’ll bear for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the Son of Mary!**

All: **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!**

NINTH LESSON

The Mystery of the Incarnation! | **John 1:1-14**

HYMN

“Away in a Manger” | **CW 68**

**Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.**

**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 take us to heaven to live with you there.**

ANTHEM

“The First Noel” | **Vocalists**

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

M: Now to him who is the Light of the world, be honor and glory forever.
People of God, go now with the power of Christ and extend the radiance of his light into our dark world. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

HYMN

“Silent Night” | CW 60

**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 thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

Vocalists repeat first verse

Service Participants

Presiding Minister	Pastor Michael Woldt
Bells	Tanya Anderson & Jean Hall
Cello	Betsy Woldt
Organ/Piano	Tanya Anderson
Guitar	Pastor Woldt
Vocalists	Grace Loeffler Dave & Jeanie Martin Jen Mueller Shelley Willis

SOLI DEO GLORIA

Glory to God Alone

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
Bill & Cheryl Hartwig in loving memory of special relatives.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Christmas Festival Services

Christmas Day / Friday, December 25, 2020

7:45* & 9:30 am

New Year's Worship Services

New Year's Eve / Thursday, December 31, 2020

3:45* pm w/ Holy Communion

PLEASE NOTE

No 6:30 pm service.

New Year's Day / Friday, January 1, 2021

9:30* am

*Livestream Available



David's Star Evangelical Lutheran Church
2740 David's Star Drive, Jackson, WI 53037