

# **Christmas Eve**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church **5:00 p.m.** 

December 24, 2019

" A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus"

# The Nativity of Our Lord

### Congregational responses are in bold print

We welcome all our visitors, members, friends and family to this wonderful evening of light, music, the Holy Word and fellowship. We gather each week to worship, study and share fellowship so we can joyfully serve others. We especially welcome those new to our worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to tell you more about Grace! Please fill in a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. We ask that all who commune fill in a communion card. We have Gluten Free Communion Wafers available please inform Communion Assistant of your need.

The Evangelical Lutheran Worship is the (red) book located in the racks in back of pews. The Holy Bible (red) is located in the racks under the pews. If you need help, any of our members will gladly give you friendly assistance.

We have **4 assisted listening units** that are simple to operate. They consist of a small unit with an earpiece and volume control, each unit is replaced after each use. See the ushers to use one today.

Restrooms: Located to your left as you face the rear of the church.

During worship, you'll notice parts of the service in regular type, which are spoken/prayed by various worship leaders. Then there are parts the you and the rest of the congregation respond and/or pray in **bold type**. All of us are participants as we worship God! When asked to **stand**, please do so <u>as you are able</u>. As Jesus welcomed all in the crowds who gathered around him, so he welcomes us.

Welcome Pastor Pingel

<u>First Reading</u>: Isaiah 9:2-7 Tripp, Jean, Brodie, Quinn, Thea, Sloan and Trotter Franklin

A reading from Isaiah:

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>You 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.

<sup>4</sup>For 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.

<sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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 onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Prelude:

"Breath of Heaven" Arr. Courtney

**Quinn Franklin** 

"The Holly and The Ivy" Behnke

**Worship Choir** 

Rejoice and Be Merry" Powell

**Caroline Biggers, flute** 

"Calypso Lullaby" Hairston/Raney

**Worship Choir** 

The congregation **stands** 

Entrance Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #283, Page 4

Invocation

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

Amen.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

### Prayer of the Day

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 Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation is **seated.** 

Anthem: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Polish Carol

Thea Franklin

Children's Church Bell Choir: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

The congregation remains seated for the hymn.

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#289 (verses 1 & 2), Page 5

### O Come, All Ye Faithful



Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

### Angels We Have Heard on High



Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

#### **Christmas Gospel According to Luke**

Grace's Children will portray the Christmas Story as it is being told to us by the families declaring the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Section 1 (vs. 1-4)** 

Steve, Carrie, Charlotte and Amelia Jones

The Christmas Gospel According to St. Luke Chapter 2:1-4

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph 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. *Unto us is born a Savior.* 

Jesus Christ our Lord.

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

#279, Verses 1, 2, 4; Page 7

**Section 2 (vs. 5-7)** 

Amber and Isabelle Bokelman

Christmas Gospel According to St. Luke Chapter 2:5-7

<sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And 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.

Unto us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Once in Royal David's City"

#269, Verses 1, 3, 4; Page 8

**Section 3 (vs. 8-12)** 

Jane Blosser, Kiera and Zoey Mahoney

Christmas Gospel According to St. Luke Chapter 2:8-12

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

<sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>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: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

Unto us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

### O Little Town of Bethlehem



Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

### Once in Royal David's City



Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895 Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

#### Section 4 (vs. 13-16)

E. G., Karla and Zachary Rankin

Christmas Gospel According to St. Luke Chapter 2:13-16

<sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. *Unto us is born a Savior.* 

Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

#275, Verses 1, 2, 4; Page 11

Section 5 (vs. 17-20)

Brad, Kim, Kaitlyn and Karley Hull

Christmas Gospel According to St. Luke Chapter 2:17-20

<sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Unto us is born a Savior.

Jesus Christ our Lord.

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#289 (Verse 3), Page 5

# Go Tell It on the Mountain



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt. Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

# Angels, from the Realms of Glory



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

The children are invited to gather at the Creché during the singing.

"What Child Is This"

#296 (Verse 1), Page 13

Children's Sermon

**Pastor Pingel** 

The children may return to their seats during the singing.

"What Child Is This"

#296 (Verse 3), Page 13

The congregation **stands** 

### **Apostles Creed**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

### What Child Is This



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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

Each portion of the prayers end with these or similar words

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

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

Amen.

#### Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The congregation is seated.

### Offering

All loose offering (bills and change) - and checks made payable to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church with "LFS" written in the memo line—will be given to the <u>Lutheran Family Services of Virginia</u> (<u>LFS</u>)

All envelopes (and checks made out to Grace Lutheran Church without a memo designation to LFS) will be given to Grace and its ministries.

**Anthem:** "Sing Joy to the World"

Althouse

**Worship Choir** 

The congregation **stands** 

"Away in a Manager"

277, Page 15

### Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Generous God, you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

# Away in a Manger



Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

### **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 our thanks and praise

#### **Preface**

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:

"Love Has Come"

Verses 1 & 3, Page 17

### Thanksgiving at the Table

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**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

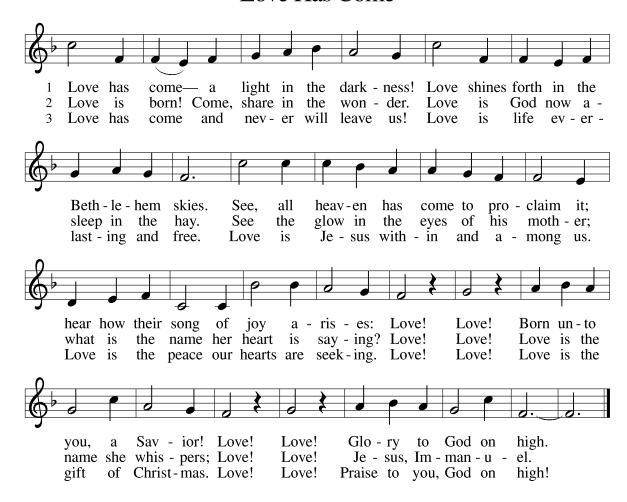
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

# Love Has Come



Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale, 1856 Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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#### **Invitation to Communion**

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

Thanks be to God!

The congregation may be seated.

### **The Holy Communion**

The congregation may be seated.

OUR LORD BIDS YOU WELCOME TO THIS HOLY MEAL! At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation to be received by faith for the strengthening of faith. In this sacrament the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord — regardless of Church denomination — to those who are baptized. (Taken from the ELCA statement on worship. The Use and Means of Grace ©1997)

**Communion Distribution:** One communion team will serve the left side of the nave; another team will serve those on the right. Communion this evening is by Intinction. You are invited to come down the center aisle, receive the bread, then dip the bread into either the wine chalice (closest to the bread-giver), or the grape juice chalice (the chalice closest to the side aisle). As you receive the bread and wine, you may respond as follows:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

#### Amen.

### **Communion Music:**

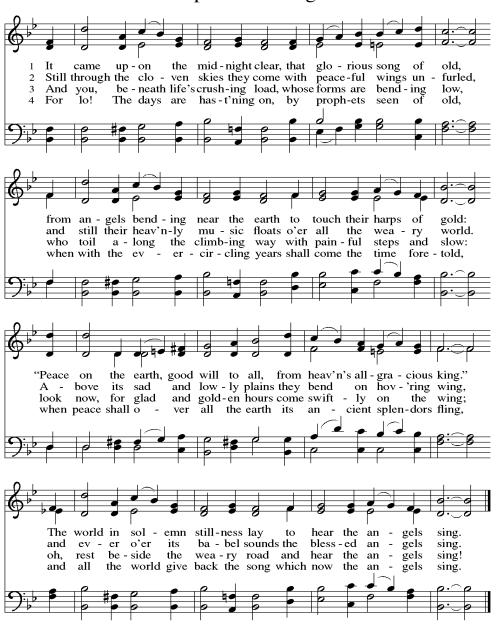
"Christmas Song"	Frederickson
Amber Bokelman	
"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"	#282, Page 19
"The Bells of Christmas"	#298, Page 20
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	#270, Page 21

After all have returned to their places, the congregation **stands**.

### The Communion Blessing

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

### It Came upon the Midnight Clear



Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

### The Bells of Christmas

#### Det kimer nu til julefest



- O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,
   O Dayspring bright, awaited long,
   O Son of Man, incarnate Word,
   great David's Son, great David's Lord:
- 6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest, and keep your Christmas in our breast; then David's harpstrings, hushed so long, shall swell our jubilee of song.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823–1883, alt. Music: DET KIMER NU TIL JULEFEST, Carl C. N. Balle, 1806–1855

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

Post Communion Hymn: "Silent Night, Holy Night" #281, Page 23

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

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.

## Sending

#### **Blessing**

Grace from God's own heart, peace from the + Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: "Joy to the World"

#267, Page 24

### <u>Dismissal</u>

Christ is born!
Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Toccata In A Minor"

Kobrich/Wold

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# Silent Night, Holy Night!

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!



Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

### Joy to the World



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

### Thanks to Our Worship Assistants Today

Assisting Minister: Karla Rankin

Communion Assistants: Cathy Crowder and Robin Crowder,

Carrie Jones and Wilda Keefer

**Ushers:** Ron Almarode, Rick Bump, Lee Lynch

Offering Stewards: Pat Brady and Bob Shumate

Acolytes/Cup Gatherers: Brodie Franklin and Zachary Rankin

Quinn Franklin and Kaitlyn Hull

Altar Guild: Jane Stein

Council Person of the Week &

Sunday School Support: Kim Hull

Children's Church: Amber Bokelman and Jean Franklin

Isabelle Bokelman Mary

Easton Carper Sheep

Wyatt Carper7 Sheep

Amaya Cooper Angel

Trotter Franklin Isaiah

Quinn, Thea and Sloane Franklin People of Bethlehem

Karley Hull Angel

Amelia Jones Joseph

Charlotte Jones Emperor Augustus

Kiera Mahoney Angel

Zoey Mahoney Shepherd

Haley Morris Angel



### Poinsettias for decorating the Nave are given in memory of:

Barbara Aaslestad by H. G. Aaslestad

Welford Smethie by H. G. Aaslestad

My Parents by Berenice Archambeault

Our Parents by Jack and Antoinette Eckstrom

Catherine Constantino by Cathy Firkin

Our Parents by Jerry and Gwen Kite

Sarah and Jerry Gum by Ron and Sandy Knicely

**Ruby** by the McKechnie Family

Gerrie by the McKechnie Family

Mamie by the McKechnie Family

Their Parents: Mr. & Mrs. V. A. Moyer, Sr. and Mr. & Mrs. S. W. Kibler by Minnie and Joe Moyer

Alvin and Valla Myers by Mike and Susan Myers

Charles and Margaret Parkel by Mike and Susan Myers

Linda C. Owens by Jimmy Owens

L. Wallace Neely and Melvin E. Pingel by Paul and Jill Pingel

Elmer and Myrtle Swanson; Seward and Elizabeth Proctor and Marion Tollisen by The Proctors

Dick Sheaffer by Dottie Sheaffer and Family

Brian Dolan by Dottie Sheaffer and Family

Brian Dolan by Lydia Dolan and Family

Joanne Hagwood by Phil and Bonnie Hagwood

Mildred Shumate by Robert Shumate

Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Shumate by Robert Shumate

Brett Stein by Karl and Jane Stein

Bob Walck by Flo Walck



### Poinsettias for decorating the Nave are given in honor of:

To the Glory of God by Linda Meyer
Choirs of Grace by Mike and Susan Myers
Kaitlyn and Kristen Myers by Mike and Susan Myers
Proctor, Traynor and Clark Families by The Proctors
Amber and Isabelle Bokelman by Terry and Gail Rotruck
Sandy Knicely by Dottie Sheaffer
Lisa by Dick and Linda Tomey
Rew and Karen Walck; Hal and Hunter Walck; and Nick and Sarah Altic by Flo Walck

# Poinsettias for decorating the Nave are given in celebration of:

Cathy and Robin Crowder's 39th Wedding Anniversary by their Grandchildren: Mason, Maddie, Macklin and Grayson.

Please feel free to take your poinsettias home after the 5:00 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. services



The Church Office will be closed December 25 and 26 for Christmas holiday. We hope everyone has a joyous time with family and friends. May God truly bless each and everyone of you with health and happiness.

### **Members of Grace, Ministers**

Linda Meyer, President

Gordon Putnam, Vice President

Zach Bandy, Holly Carper, Pete Giesen,

Kim Hull, Gail Johnson, Kathryn Johnson,

Carrie Jones, Jerry Kite, and

Rudolph Yobs

Deloris Wertman, Secretary

Ron Almarode, Treasurer

Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer

Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (lunch 12:00 - 12:30) - Monday - Thursday;

8:30 a.m.—Noon - Friday

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