



Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church

December 24, 2023

734-269-2420

www.princeofpeaceida.org

Prelude

Special Music

Arnold

9:00 AM Kinsey

Welcome & Announcements

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

Lighting the Candles

A candle is lit as each stanza is read.

God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. (*Genesis 1:3-4*)

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. (*Isaiah 9:2*)

In Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. (*John 1:4-5*)

You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (*1 Peter 2:9*)

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light. (*Revelation 22:1-2, 5*)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

Proclamation of the Birth of Christ

The assembly stands and faces the entrance to the sanctuary.

The priest Zechariah, filled with the Holy Spirit prophesied, “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 child David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old:

The tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.” *(Luke 1:67-70, 78-79)*

Now in our own times God’s word has been fulfilled.
Born this day in our own city, is our Savior, Immanuel,
God with us, God’s word made flesh.

**Jesus, you are the bright Morning Star, shine for all to see.
Jesus, may your radiant love guide us through the darkness.
Jesus, by your Holy Spirit, sing through us the song of your holy angels,
peace on earth, good will to all. Amen.**

Procession

The assembly turns to follow the Light of Christ as it enters the sanctuary, singing:

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW 283

1 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!

2 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*

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

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. 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.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

Children come forward to sit at the front of the sanctuary. The assembly is seated.

1 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.

Children's Bible Story

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

Children return to their seats.

2 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!

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.

Away in a Manger

ELW 277

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.
- 2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

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 peace on earth, goodwill to all!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

- 1 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!"

- 3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Luke 2:15-20

15When 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." 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her

heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 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!

1 While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

Sermon

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

3 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.

4 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!

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

*After each petition the assembly responds with the text in **bold**:*

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

The prayer concludes:

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly greets one another with a sign of peace.

Offering

The assembly is seated as an offering is gathered for God's mission in this church, including the care of those in need.

Special Music

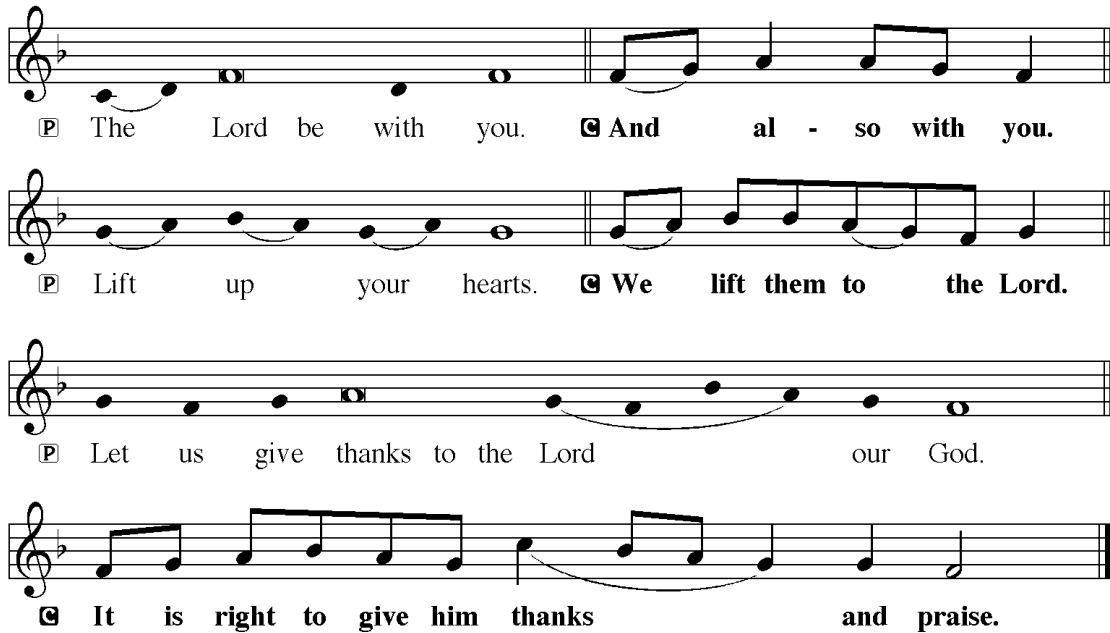
9:00 AM Kyle Gautz

Offering Prayer

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your banquet of life.
Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving



♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so 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.

It is indeed right and salutary . . . (*Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:*) we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW 289

1 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.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The 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 to the Lord's Supper

This is Christ's table and Christ welcomes each and every single one of you.

The assembly is seated.

Special Music

9:00 AM Sarah Prati
9:00 AM Grace Lampkowski

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.

Candle Lighting

The sanctuary is darkened. Votive candles are lit and the light is passed. Please keep lit candles vertical and tip unlit candles into the flame.

Special Music

9:00 AM & 7:00 PM Kim Cramer

Silent Night, Holy Night

ELW 281

- 1 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.
- 2 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!
- 3 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.

Benediction

May the light of Christ, born this day, bring you
out of chaos into peace,
out of sadness into joy,
out of death and darkness and into everlasting + life.

Amen.

Joy to the World

ELW 267

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

- 3 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,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

*The bulletins for this Christmas Eve service
were donated in loving memory
of their son, Chuck,
from Bink & Roxie Boll*

You are welcome to attend a new member lunch on Sun., Jan. 14, 2024, at 11:30 AM in the High School Room. We'll discuss how to officially join Prince of Peace, what it means to be a Lutheran Christian and more. Please RSVP to Kim in the office kim@princeofpeaceida.org or Pastor Aaron to pastor@princeofpeaceida.org by Jan. 07, 2024.

AA meetings are held at Prince of Peace each Tuesday at 7 PM. The meetings are open and available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous's program of recovery from alcoholism. Non - alcoholics may attend the meetings as observers. Contact Doug Scharer if you have any questions.

The Nominating committee is looking for candidates that would be willing to run for a position on the church council. Open positions are President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, Deacon (1), Trustee (2), Board of Parish Education (1). People for Nominating Committee (6) are also needed. If you are interested in learning more about any of the openings or would like to volunteer for one of them, please contact Doug Kamprath, Kelsey DeLand, Jennifer Henry, Drew Lynn or Ron Zabawa. Synod Assembly representatives are also needed.

The new Prince of Peace cemetery section is now open and lots are being sold. Maps and sheets of info. are in the narthex. Contact Kevin Rath, Dave Lorenzo, Chuck Vagt w/ questions; for paperwork to purchase, contact Faye Lorenzo.

New issues of *Word in Season* & large print editions, a booklet with daily devotions and issues of Spark, a booklet with activities and devotions for families with children are available. They are all located in the narthex and are free of charge.

2024 Calendars provided by Capaul Funeral Home, are available in the narthex.

Your 2024 offering envelopes are available for pick up. Please, look at them and make sure that the number on the label matches the number on the envelopes in the box *and* that your name is correct contact the church office.

You may also direct deposit or scan to donate an offering:



Serving our congregation this morning:

Acolytes – 9:00 AM – Carson Jennings and Brent Jennings
7:00 PM -William Gensler and Cooper Salenbien

Candlelighters – 9:00 AM – Hearl Family
7:00 PM – Kim Cramer & Jayden

Altar Guild – Barb DeLand, Cheryl Stotz, Kelsey DeLand

Coffee Hour – Aimee Prati

Financial Stewards – Dick Leonard and Chuck & Jan Vagt

Liturgical Minister – 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM – Tim Smith

Media – Kelsey DeLand

Organist – Ray Smith

Special Music – 9:00 AM - Prelude, Kinsey Arnold, keyboard; Offering, Kyle Gautz, violinist; Holy Communion, Sarah Prati, trumpeter, Grace Lampkowski, soloist; Kim Cramer, flutist

7:00 PM – Kim Cramer, flutist

Ushers – 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM – Darrick & Carol Whitaker

Youth Lay Readers – 9:00 AM – Oliver Hearl

7:00 PM – Jayden Cramer

Schedule:

Sunday: Holy Communion - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Coffee Hour in The Gathering Place

Monday: Christmas Day

Tuesday: AA - 7:00 PM

Wednesday: No Service Tonight

Drop off your undecorated, live Christmas tree
in the picnic shelter to use in *Journey to the Cross*

Coming Soon:

Sun., Jan. 07 – Sunday School & Catechism Resume – 10:15 AM

Sun., Jan. 07 – “Un”-decorate the sanctuary

Mon. Jan. 08 – Dartball games resumes

Tues., Jan. 09 – Adult Bible Study resumes – 9:30 AM

Wed., Jan. 10 – God Works Soup Kitchen

Sun., Jan. 14 – New Member Orientation

Sun., Jan. 28 - Annual Meeting of the congregation

We thank everyone for loaning us your poinsettias this evening. When you pick up your poinsettia(s), you may take one of the plastic sleeves located in the coat room. There is a list posted on the bulletin board outside Pastor's office of which poinsettia(s) belong to you.



In Honor of:

- ...Our two wonderful daughters & their families by Leonard & Joy Fox
- ...Chaplains by the Werner Family
- ...Our family by the Prati Family
- ...The Community of Prince of Peace
- ...Pastor Aaron, Pastor Emily, Miriam & Elijah

In Memory of:

- ...Loved ones by Diane Schuyler
- ...Loved ones by Trudy Hill
- ...Loved ones by Joy and Leonard Fox
- ...Kelly Iott by the Iott Family
- ...Loved ones by Paul & Marilyn Ness
- ...Edwin & Wilma and Dale Lyons by Gloria, Janet, Sharon & Lyons Families
& their families
- ...Wayne & Betty Adler by Tom & Gloria, Jason, Daniel Alder
- ...Our parents, Dr. Charles & Mildred DeLand; Herbert & Dorothy Stotz by Brian & Barb DeLand
- ...Our loved ones by Bink & Roxie Boll
- ...Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Cairns by Cheryl Stotz
- ...Our parents, Henry, Donna & Jane by Ron & Mindy Stadler
- ...Loved ones by the Gerweck Family
- ...Kathy Fritz by Dave Fritz
- ...Marsi Gilbert, Jeff Roose, Bernice Rath and Billy Heikkila
- ...Our parents by Paul and Jeannine Marks
- ...Jane Stadler by Don Stadler