



Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church

December 31, 2023

734-269-2420

www.princeofpeaceida.org

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful (v. 1, 4) 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!.

4 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*

Dialogue

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

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

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness,
on them light has shined.

**We have beheld Christ's glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**In the Word was life,
and the life was the light of all people.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lessons and Carols

Isaiah 9:2-6

Alex Tremonti

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.

You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

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.

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

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.

Hark, the Glad Sound!

(v. 1-2) ELW 239

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.

2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

Micah 5:2-5a

Alex Tremonti

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth,
and he shall be the one of peace.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

(v. 1-2) ELW 279

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.

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!

Matthew 1:20-23

Kim Cramer

An angel of the Lord appeared to [Joseph] in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

(v. 1-2) ELW 288

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

- 2 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Matthew 2:9-11

Kim Cramer

When [the Magi] had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

What Child Is This

(v. 1, 3) ELW 296

- 1 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!

- 3 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!

John 1:1-5, 9, 14

Brian DeLand

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

ELW 254

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Response to the Word

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace.

You rule the earth with truth and justice.

Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary.

You share our humanity.

**Have mercy on the sick, the dying,
and all who suffer this day.**

Blessed are you, Son of God.

You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

**Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament
that we may bear your light to all the world.**

Prayers of the People

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Offering

Holy Communion

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Distribution

Special Music

Sarah Prati

Christ welcomes each and every single one of you to receive the Lord's Supper.

Blessing and Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May we be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi,
and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy
Spirit, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

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!"

- 2 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*

- 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*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is born!

Thanks be to God!

Betty Nickel will lead our worship service today. The elements for the Lord's Supper have been consecrated prior to worship. LLM Jim Puhl will be here to lead us in worship Wednesday. Pastor Aaron will be back next Sunday.

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.

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 Hemry, Drew Lynn or Ron Zabawa. Synod Assembly representatives are also needed.

This year's Synod Assembly will be held at Prince of Peace on Saturday, May 11, 2024. Two delegates are needed, one male, one female. Our church council would like to open the invitation to the congregation. Two members of the council are available to attend if no one in the congregation is interested. Please let a member of the nominating committee know by January 7 so that your name can be added to the ballot for the Annual Meeting.

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.

St. John's in Dundee is counting on Prince of Peace to serve the God Works! meal on Wed., Jan. 10. Two salads and two desserts are needed. Please contact Joy if you can provide a dish and/or help with the meal.

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.

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 – Marissa Tremonti and Alex Tremonti
Altar Guild – Barb DeLand, Cheryl Stotz, Kelsey DeLand
Coffee Hour – Aimee Prati
Financial Stewards – Ron Zabawa and Paul & Marilyn Ness
Presiding Liturgical Minister – Betty Nickel
Media – Kelsey DeLand
Organist – Ray Smith
Special Music – Sarah Prati
Ushers –
Lay Readers – Alex Tremonti, Kim Cramer and Brian DeLand

Schedule:

Sunday: Holy Communion - 9:00 AM
Coffee Hour in The Gathering Place
Take down candelabra
Monday: New Year's Day
Tuesday: AA - 7:00 PM
Wednesday: Mid-Week Service – 7:00 PM
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 resume
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

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