

# Our Saviour

Lutheran Church



Saturday Service  
Fourth Week of Advent  
18 December 2021  
[www.oslc-warrenton.org](http://www.oslc-warrenton.org)

**PRE-SERVICE SING-ALONG**

Song

*Once in Royal David's City*

ELW 269

*Solo:*

Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ, her little child.

*All Sing:*

He came down to earth from heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor and meek and lowly,  
lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heav'n above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
with the oxen standing by,  
we shall see him; but in heaven,  
set at God's right hand on high;  
there his children gather round,  
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

**GATHERING**

Welcome Song

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ELW 279

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.

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 ring to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

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.

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!

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

#### *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

**ELW 240**

Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness,  
He is coming, tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining!

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

**P** Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence may be kept for reflection.*

**C** Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

**P** By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives us all our sins. Wherefore by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ and in his stead, I forgive you all your sins.

**C** Amen.

### **Sharing the Peace**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

L Let us pray. *[A brief pause]*

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## WORD

### First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>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;

<sup>5a</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

<sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said,  
“My soul magnifies the Lord,  
<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
<sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
<sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
<sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
<sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
<sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
<sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
<sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

**Song of Day**                      *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*                      **ELW 631**

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

*(Song continued next page →)*

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

### Prayers of the People

*When prompted, call out names of people, places or organizations that are in need of God's care.*

### MEAL

#### Sharing Our Gifts

L Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of his gracious love.

*Our offerings support the work of the church in Warrenton and the world. Please pass the baskets from front to back. You may also make an offering online at [www.oslc-warrenton.org](http://www.oslc-warrenton.org) by clicking the "DONATE" tab on the homepage.*

#### Offering Song

#### *Creator of the Stars of Night*

ELW 245

Come in your holy might, we pray,  
Redeem us for eternal day;  
Defend us while we dwell below  
From all assaults of our dread foe. Amen.

#### Dialogue

*The presiding minister invites the people to prayer.*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### Thanksgiving Prayer

*The minister leads a prayer of thanksgiving, recalling God's saving deeds, and calling the Holy Spirit to be present as we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus.*

## Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as our Savior taught us.

C 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.

## Sharing Holy Communion

*All baptized Christians are invited to share Christ's Body and Blood. If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward and stand around the altar. You will be offered both the bread and cup. If you prefer not to drink, simply indicate this to the assisting minister.*

Communion Song

*Born in Bethlehem*

Sung by VoP

## Prayer After Communion

L Let us pray together. *[A brief pause]*

C God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord. Amen.

## SENDING

### Blessing

P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, †  
be upon you now and forever.

C Amen.

Sending Song

*Born in Bethlehem*

Baby Jesus, born in a stable, a humble Savior's birth.  
You left Your throne in heaven above to live here on the earth.

Baby Jesus, lyin' in a manger, cryin' for the world.  
The angels told the shepherds of the good new for us all.

*(Song continued next page →)*

**Refrain:** Hallelujah, the King is here, given for all men.  
For today the holy Son of God is born in Bethlehem.

Come thou sinners and you saints, all peasants and all kings.  
Ang bow before the earth's Redeemer, let all voices sing. (**Refrain 2x**)

Baby Jesus do You know, You'll die for all our sins?  
Don't be afraid for in three days You will rise again.  
You will rise again. (**Refrain**)

## Dismissal

L Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## POST-SERVICE SING-ALONG

Song

***Angels We Have Heard High***

**ELW 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**)

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