

Christmas Eve + 2024 + 4:00pm



And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. ✻ (And this taxing was first

made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) ✻

And all went to be taxed, every man into his own city.

✻ And Joseph also went, because he was of the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David,)

which was with Bethlehem in Judaea; and he went to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

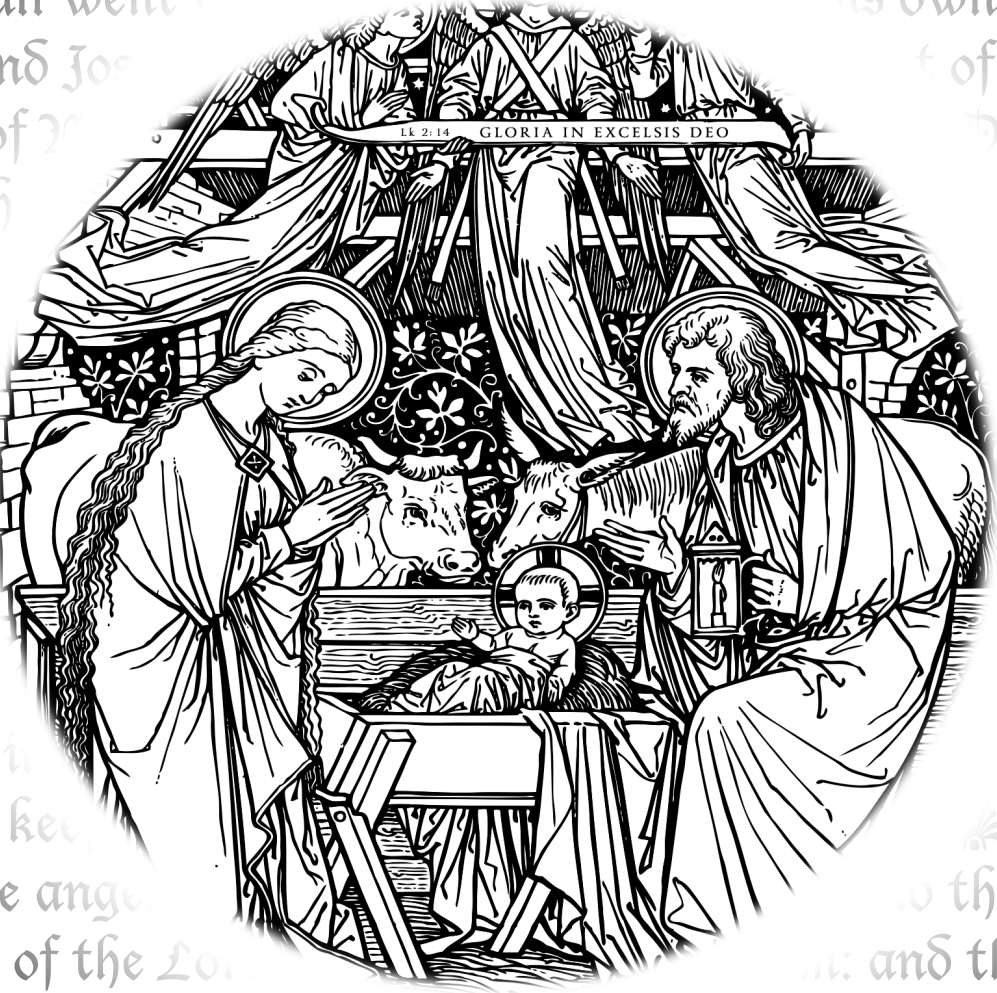
And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.

And so it was, that when they were come to Bethlehem, and there lay before the inn where they were to lodge, because there was no room for them there, they were lodged in a manger with the oxen and asses which were there: because there was no room for them there.



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Warrenton Virginia

GATHERING MUSIC

Noel
The Wexford Carol
Light of the World

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Stand

Many ages after God created the heavens and the earth, when man and woman were formed in God's own image;
long after the great flood, when God set the rainbow in the clouds as a sign of the covenant;
twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led God's people to freedom;
eleven centuries from the time of Ruth and the judges;
a thousand years from the anointing of David as king;
in the sixty-fifth week as Daniel's prophecy takes note;
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;
the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the founding of the city of Rome;
the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;
in the sixth age of the world, all earth being at peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God, Son of the eternal Father, willing to hallow the world by his coming in mercy, was born of the virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.

Today is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

The presiding minister welcomes the people.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

"ELW" indicates the red hymnal in the pews, where music for most hymns can be found.

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!

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)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest.

(Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

(Refrain)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. *[A brief silence]* 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.

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!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
 on them light has shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

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

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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.

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung,
It came, a flow'r so bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah had foretold it,
the rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.

EPISTLE READING

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

How Great Our Joy

As the book is carried into our midst, we sing:

While by the sheep we watched at night,
Glad tidings brought an angel bright.

Chorus:

How great our joy! (Great our joy!)
Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
(Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!)

There shall be born, so he did say
In Bethlehem a Child today.

(Chorus)

GOSPEL READING

St. Luke 2:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered.

⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them,

and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
¹⁴“*Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!*”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

As the book is returned to its place, we sing:

There shall the Child lie in a stall,
This Child who shall redeem us all.

Chorus:

How great our joy! (Great our joy!)
Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
(Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!)

This gift of God we'll cherish well,
That ever joy our hearts shall fill.

(Chorus)

SERMON

The Rev. Michael Church

It came upon the midnight clear,
 that glorious song of old,
 from angels bending near the earth
 to touch their harps of gold:
 "Peace on the earth, good will to all,
 from heav'n's all-gracious king."
 The world in solemn stillness lay
 to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
 with peaceful wings unfurled,
 and still their heav'nly music floats
 o'er all the weary world.
 Above its sad and lowly plains
 they bend on hov'ring wing,
 and ever o'er its babel sounds
 the blessed angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load,
 whose forms are bending low,

who toil along the climbing way
 with painful steps and slow:
 look now, for glad and golden hours
 come swiftly on the wing;
 oh, rest beside the weary road
 and hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
 by prophets seen of old,
 when with the ever-circling years
 shall come the time foretold,
 when peace shall over all the earth
 its ancient splendors fling,
 and all the world give back the song
 which now the angels sing.

Gloria in excelsis deo!
 Gloria in excelsis deo!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Prayers are offered for the church, the world, and all in need. After each petition:

Lord, in your glory,
Hear our prayer.

OFFERING

An offering is received for the mission of the church, both here and abroad.

As the gifts are brought forward, we sing together:

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.

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.

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 fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

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 table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

SURSUM CORDA

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

#11 – “We give you thanks”

On behalf of the assembly, the presiding minister offers a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

The particular prayer that we use tonight is among the oldest in our tradition. It is from ancient document called the Apostolic Tradition. See how, in the spirit of Christmas, it speaks of Christ as the Word of God, inseparable from the Father and active in the Creation of the world.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Holy things for holy people.

Only one is holy: Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father.

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

- *We believe that Christ is truly present in his supper.*
- *All baptized Christians are invited to share in his Body and Blood.*
- *When you come forward, you may either consume the Host and drink from the chalice or dip the Host into the wine and then consume them both together.*
- *Those who wish to abstain from either or both elements may cross their arms and receive a blessing instead, confident that God is fully present according to his promise.*
- *Those who require communion in their pew, or who require a gluten-free wafer, are asked to tell an usher.*



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Sung by Voices of Praise

Here With Us

A Christmas Alleluia

BLESSING & PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The presiding minister offers a blessing.

May the true body of our Lord, Jesus Christ and his most precious blood strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.**

An assisting minister offers a prayer.

Let us pray. *[A brief silence]* God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the power and presence of our Lord Jesus Christ; confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever.

Amen.

CANDLE-LIGHTING CEREMONY

As the flame is passed, be careful to protect yourself and those around you. Tip your unlit candle toward one that is lit. Please DO NOT TIP a lighted candle.



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 your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

(Ending)

BENEDICTION

May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life.

Amen.

May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.

Amen.

May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.

Amen.

And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joy To The World (Joyful Joyful)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come.

Let earth receive her King.

Let every heart prepare Him room

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven and Heaven and nature sing.

(Interlude)

Joy to the World, the Savior reigns.

Let men, their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

(Interlude)

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.
(Interlude)

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love.
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Op'ning to the sun above.
(Repeat)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with us.
Thanks be to God.

POST-SERVICE MUSIC

Hope Was Born This Night

Copyright Acknowledgments

Noel: Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Redman © 2015 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | S. D. G. Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Said And Done Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | sixsteps Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Worship Together Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) |
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7050419

Wexford Carol: Public Domain

Light of the World: Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, Paul Mabury © 2014 CentricSongs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | See You At The Pub (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Oceans Away Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) | So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) | Annie and Clyde Music |
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7023299

O Come All Ye Faithful: Public Domain

What Child is This: Public Domain

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming: Public Domain

How Great Our Joy: Theodore Baker © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 124071

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear: Public Domain

Away in a Manger (Forever Amen): James Ramsey Murray, John Thomas McFarland, Jonathan Smith, Martin Luther, Phil Wickham © 2019 Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs; Sing My Songs | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7138828

Here With Us: Ben Glover, Jason Ingram, Joy Williams © 2005 New Spring; J Ingram Music; Years Later Music; Curb Wordspring Music | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 4592743

A Christmas Alleluia: Chris Tomlin, Jonas Myrin © 2015 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | S. D. G. Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | sixsteps Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Son of the Lion (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Worship Together Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) |
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7050431

Silent Night (Heavenly Peace): Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash | © 2021 Angie Feel Good Songs; Bay19; Capitol CMG Genesis; Capitol CMG Paragon; Scott Cash Publishing Designee; We The Kingdom Music | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7185130

Joy To The World (Joyful Joyful): Edward Hodges, George Frideric Handel, Henry Van Dyke, Isaac Watts, Ludwig van Beethoven, Phil Wickham © 2018 Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs; Sing My Songs | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7128618

Hope Was Born This Night: Ben McDonald, David Frey | © 2010 Mike Curb Music; Pencil Prophet Publishing; Run Run Milo | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 5873296

