

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
HIS LIGHT OF GLORY CAME INTO THE WORLD
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE- CHOIR PARTICIPATION
DECEMBER 24, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

Opening Prayer

Choir: *“Joy to the World, the Lord has Come!”*

Invocation: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C:** *Amen.*

Christmas Litany: *tune “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” 374*

P: Gentle Mary laid her child	C: Lowly in a manger
P: There He lay the undefiled	C: To the world a stranger
P: Such a babe in such a place,	C: Can He be the Savior?
P: Ask the saved of all the race	C: Who has found His favor.
P: Gentle Mary laid her child	C: Lowly in a manger.
P: He is still the undefiled	C: But no more a stranger.
P: Son of God of humble birth	C: Beautiful the story;
P: Praise His name in all the earth	C: Hail the King of Glory!

Opening Hymn: *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” 357 vs. 1, 6, 7*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death’s dark shadows put to flight **Refrain:**

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. **Refrain:**

Confession and Absolution: **C:** *Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.*

Absolution: Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Offerings brought to the Altar

Psalmody: *Psalm 110*

P: The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand C: *Until I make Your enemies Your footstool.*

P: The Lord sends forth from Zion Your mighty scepter C: *Rule in the midst of your enemies.*

P: Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of Your power, in holy garments C:
From the womb of the morning, the dew of youth will be yours.

P: The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind C: *“You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”*

ALL: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

Christmas Collect: *tune “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” 380*

Dear Father, we call to You, seeking help in all we do
Send Your Spirit to us Lord So Your wisdom is adored.
Lead us so we honor You Lead us so we remain true
To the One who came to earth To Your Son of special birth
Bless us Father we ask You; in His name, we pray to You. Amen.

Choir: *“Messiah”*

O. T. Lesson: *Isaiah 7: 10-14*

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, “Ask for a sign of the Lord your God; let it be as deep as Sheol or as high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” And He said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

Epistle Lesson: *I John 4: 7-16*

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God has been made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world.

Hymn: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” 379

Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 1: 18-25* “Joseph Told of Jesus”

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name, Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

Gospel Lesson: *Luke 2: 1-7* “Mary Gives Birth”

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Hymn: “What Child is This?” 370

Gospel Lesson: *Luke 2: 8-14* “*Shepherds are Told of His Birth*”

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angels a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!”

Hymn: “*Angels We Have Heard On High*” 368

Sermon

Choir: “*For Unto Us*”

Prayers

Lord’s Prayer

Blessing of the Elements

Distribution: (We will have continuous flow- which means once you receive the bread and wine, you will depart from the altar and there will be only one final blessing after everyone has been served.)

Distribution Hymns: 358 vs. 1-4, 359, 367, 381

Closing Hymn: “*Silent Night, Holy Night*” 363

Closing Collect: *tune* “*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*”

Dear Lord, we call out to Your name, we ask You hear our plea,
We ask You guide and bring us grace, so that others may see
The hope we have in You alone, The life given by Thee,
We pray to You by His own name, His own name.
We pray to You by His own name! Amen!

“Benediction” – “*A Benediction of Peace*” *Choir*

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