

Nativity of our Lord- Christmas Eve

24 December 2025

9:00 PM- Livestream



Worship Team- 9:00 PM

Presiding Minister- Pr. Ben Colahan

Audio/Visual- Malinda Ard, Kai Pappani-McDermott, & Kaylen Wilson

Assisting Minister- Karen Avis

Communion Clean-up- Julio Quiñones

Communion Servers- Leanne Chrisman, Vickie James (shepherd), Elaine Lund, Janine Rush, & Marge Troester

Council Person- Dawn Stafford

Healing Minister- Gen Brink-Capriola

Lector- Raquel Krach

Musicians- Christmas Eve Chamber Ensemble, FLC Handbell Choir, and FLC Sanctuary Choir

Parking Lot- Jon Stafford

Ushers- Craig Fellner & Devlin Gillespie

Welcome Table- Diane Fellner & Mary Schweder

Cantor- Luke Nicolay

AV Guide-

Gold Highlight w/ Red Text = camera shot

Blue Highlight w/ White Text = video

Thank you!

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

Home
Ola Gjeilo

Christmas Eve Chamber Ensemble

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[Camera- Organ Single Shot (9), Organ Dual Shot (11), Processional (3)]

Processional Carol

ELW 283 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2
© Oxford University Press 1961 (descant and organ part for verse 3- David Willcocks).

[Camera- Processional (3)]

Verse 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!

Verse 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*

Verse 3:

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

Verse 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*

Welcome

The PRESIDING MINISTER welcomes everyone.

[Camera- Talk (7)]

Confession & Forgiveness

Pr. Ben Colahan

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

**L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
Wonderful Counselor,**

**Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace.**

C: Amen.

**Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness,
let us confess our sin.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Reconciling God,

L & C: we yearn for your presence to transform
our grief, pain, and despair.

We confess that we have not always prepared
room in our hearts for your love;
we have not always recognized
your presence among us;
we have not always embraced your message of peace.

We cry out, weary with the burden of violence,
oppression, and fear.

We confess our failure to make room
for those seeking refuge;
our participation in violent systems
that harm your innocent ones;
our reluctance to embody your good news.

Be born in us today
and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.

Amen.

L: God's grace upon grace flows over you.

✝ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.

Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

Amen.

Greeting

*Lead the Greeting and Prayer of the Day from the front center of the assembly
The PRESIDING MINISTER and assembly greet each other*

**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.

Prayer of the Day

The PRESIDING MINISTER leads the prayer in these or similar words

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept

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.

The assembly is seated

Handbell Anthem

And Heaven and Nature Sing

Matthew Prins

FLC Handbell Choir

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[Camera- Processional (3)]

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

Raquel Krach

[Camera- Lectern (8)]

A reading from Isaiah.

- ² 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.
- ³ 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.
- ⁴ 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.
- ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- ⁶ 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.
7 Great will be his authority,
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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 96

Michel Guimont

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Today, today,
today is born our Savior,
Christ the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW 257 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

(v. 1)

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite

Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

[Camera- Congregation Left (16), Congregation Right (17)]

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.

Gospel

The PRESIDING MINISTER proclaims the gospel

Luke 2:1-14

Pr. Ben Colahan

[Camera- Talk (7)]

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ 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. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

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

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ 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: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And 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.

Sermon

The assembly is seated

Pr. Ben Colahan

[Camera- Talk (7)]

Hymn of the Day

ELW 270 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

[Camera- Congregation Left (16), Congregation Right (17)]

Verse 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.

Verse 2:

Verse 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.

Verse 4:

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!

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!

Nicene Creed

Pr. Ben Colahan

[Camera- Talk (7)]

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 Intercession

Karen Avis
"O Lord, hear my prayer"
Taizé

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[Camera- Lectern (8)]

Lead the Prayers of Intercession, Peace, and Welcome from the front center of the assembly

The ASSISTING MINISTER invites the assembly into prayer

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Give your bold spirit of servant leadership to all who guide the church, especially for our bishops, Yehiel and Jeff.

Sung Response: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night.

Sung Response: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares. Grant fear of the Lord to all in authority that they may govern with wisdom, especially our president, Donald, and our governor, Gavin.

Sung Response: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling *especially for those whom we name before you...*

Pause for 15 seconds to allow assembly to speak or type those names.

Sung Response: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth. We pray especially for youth seeking safety and care.

Sung Response: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

People of God, for what else do we pray or give thanks?

Pause for 15 seconds to allow assembly to speak or type those names.

The person offering the prayer or the ASSISTING MINISTER may conclude each petition:

Sung Response: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus.

Sung Response: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Pr. Ben Colahan

[Camera- Talk (7), Congregation Left (16), Congregation Right (17)]

L: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering

Pr. Ben Colahan

In the Bleak Midwinter

Arr. Dan Forrest

FLC Sanctuary Choir and Chamber Ensemble

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[Camera- Processional (3)]

Setting the Table

ELW 270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

© oxford University Press 1961 (descant and organ part for verse 3- David Willcocks).

[Camera- Processional (3), Congregation Left (16), Congregation Right (17)]

Verse 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!"

Verse 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*

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Verse 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*

Great Thanksgiving

[Camera- Altar Right (5)]

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.

And now I invite you to join me in celebrating the mystery of communion, the revelation of Christ physically with us. Please hold your bread and your cup and repeat after me the words that Jesus command us to use in remembrance of him.

**On the night he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread,
Gave thanks, blessed it, broke it
and gave it to his disciples saying,**

**“This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”**

**Again after supper,
Jesus took the cup,
gave thanks, blessed it
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.”**

The Lord’s Prayer

[Camera- Altar Right (5)]

Remembering him therefore, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Communion Song

ELW 294 In the Bleak Midwinter

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894

[Camera- Congregation Left (16), Congregation Right (17)]

Verse 1:

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,

Verse 2:

Heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heav'n and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign;
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed

in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

the Lord God almighty,
Jesus Christ.

Verse 3:

What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—
give my heart.

Communion Song

ELW 272 Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845-1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4

Verse 1:

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.

Verse 2:

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.

Communion Song

ELW 277 Away in A Manger

Text: North American, 19th cent

Verse 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,

Verse 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

the little Lord Jesus
asleep on the hay.

and stay by my cradle
till morning is nigh.

Verse 3:

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.

Communion Song

ELW 296 What Child Is This

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Verse 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!

Verse 2:

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Verse 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!

Prayer after Communion

Karen Avis

[Camera- Lectern (8)]

**Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.
May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts
the mystery of your presence.
Move us to discover the wonders of your love
in the everyday moments of our lives,**

through Christ born in us.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Lighting of the Candles

Pr. Ben Colahan

[Camera- Talk (7)]

HS 732 Night of Silence/Silent Night

FLC Sanctuary Choir

Text: Daniel Kantor

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[Camera- Processional (3), Cong. Left (16), Cong. Right (17)]

Sending Song

HS 732A/ELW 281 Silent Night, Holy Night

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885

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!
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.

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!

Blessing

Pr. Ben Colahan

[Camera- Narthex (15)]

The assembly stands. The PRESIDING MINISTER proclaims God's blessing

Please stand to receive God's blessing.

A brief silence is kept

**The triune God,
glorious Mystery,
holy Incarnate One,
abiding Comforter,**

✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

Amen.

Dismissal

Karen Avis

L: Glory to God in the highest!

C: And peace to God's people on earth!

L: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Traditional French Carol, arr. by Keith Chapman

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[Camera- Processional (3), Organ Dual Shot (11), Processional (3)]

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