

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24, 2024
5:00 PM

+ Gathering +

PRELUDE

Ríu Ríu Chíu

16th Century Spanish - Villancico

RINGING OF THE BELL

At the sound of the bell, the congregation is invited to rise as you are able and face the narthex.

WELCOME

In the wonder and the mystery of the Word putting on clothes and moving into our neighborhood we gather this night. For Christ is born. We are forgiven of our sin, forever yoked to God's redeeming grace. Let us gather into this place of worship in thanksgiving of our God, Creator, Redeemer, ✝ Sustainer, to Whom be given all honor and praise and glory from this day and forevermore.

Amen, Alleluia.

Amen, Alleluia.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*The congregation is invited to face
the cross as it is carried in.*

O Come, All Ye Faithful (ELW 283)

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.

GLORIA



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

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 congregation may be seated.

+ Word +

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.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (ELW 272)

READING

Titus 2:11-14

A reading from Titus.

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He 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.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

*The congregation may stand and face the cross
as it moves to the center of the aisle.*
Angels, from the Realms of Glory (ELW 275, vs. 1 & 2)

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The holy gospel according to Luke.
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!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory (ELW 275, vs. 3 & 4)

HOMILY

The congregation may be seated.
Vicar Alex Linn

HYMN OF THE DAY

The congregation may stand.
Love Has Come (ELW 292)

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**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

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people. You may assume a posture of prayer by sitting, standing or kneeling.

Silence

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict, in Palestine, Isreal, Ukraine, Sudan. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (wave, handshake, hug, etc.), honoring the personal boundaries of all. Those online may unmute and verbally share the peace.

+ Meal +

OFFERTORY

We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Holy Night

Adolph Adam

OFFERTORY VERSE

The congregation may stand.
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (ELW 276)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

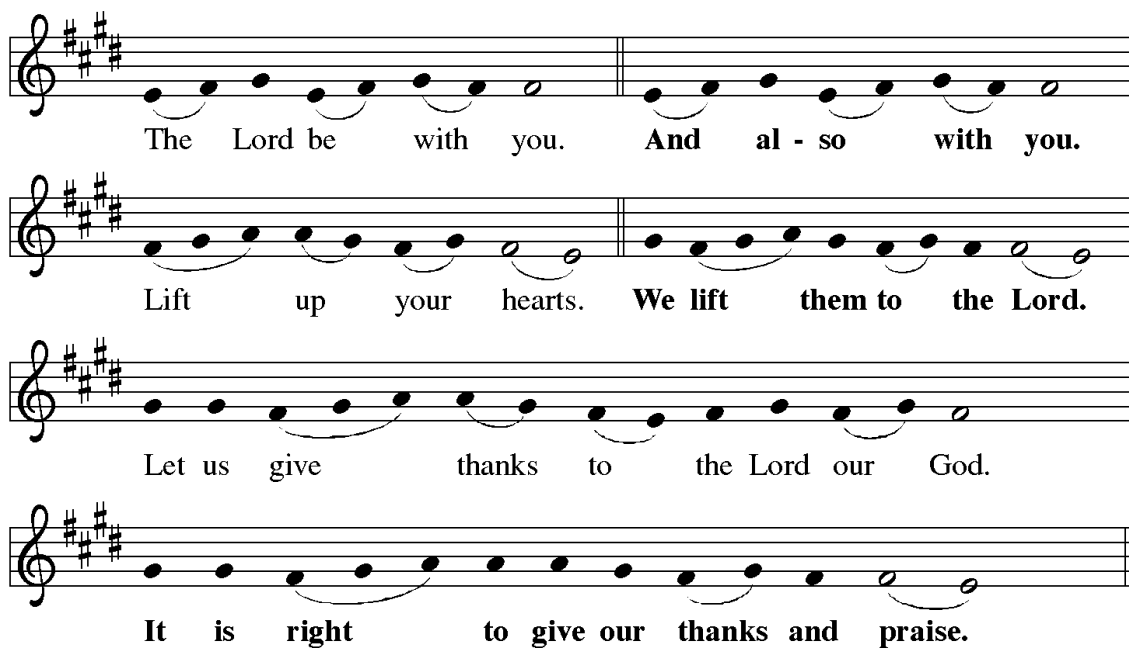
**God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.**

The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.

**Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.**

Amen.

DIALOGUE & PROPER PREFACE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

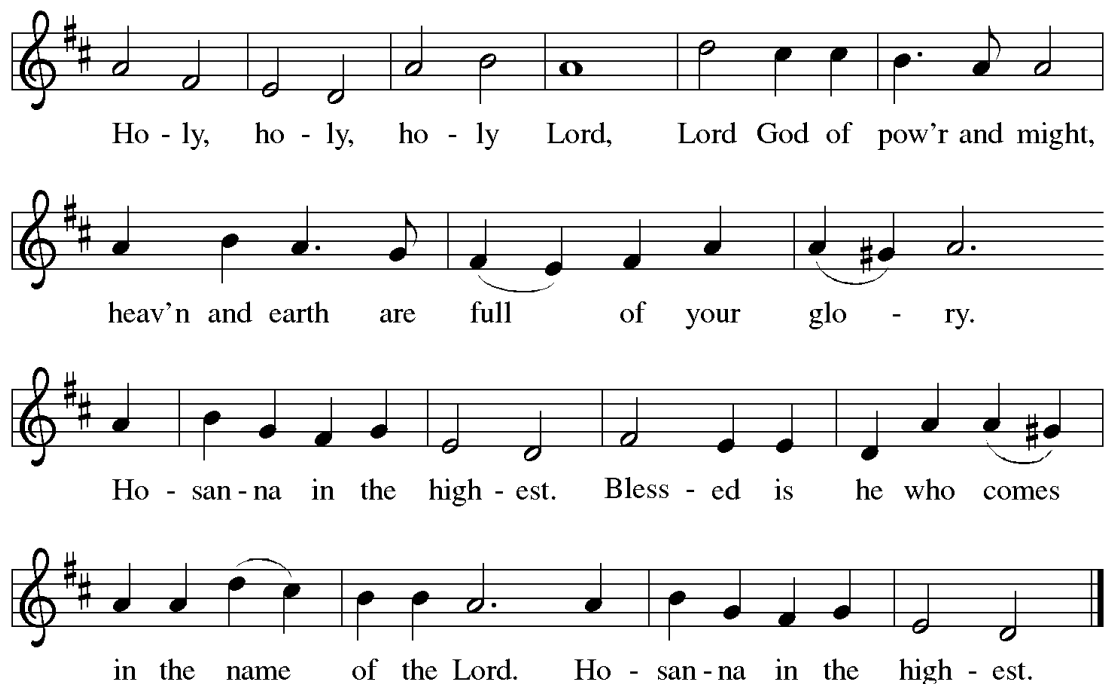
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. . .

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command . . .

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

The cantor introduces the Lord's Prayer



Gathered into one by the Ho-ly Spir - it, let us pray as Je-sus taught us.



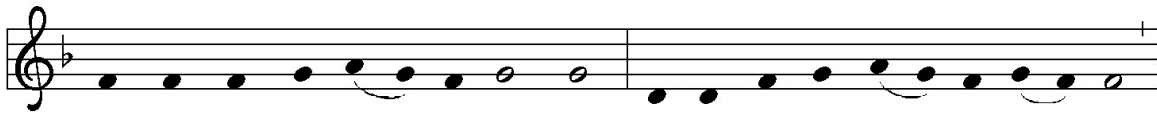
Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

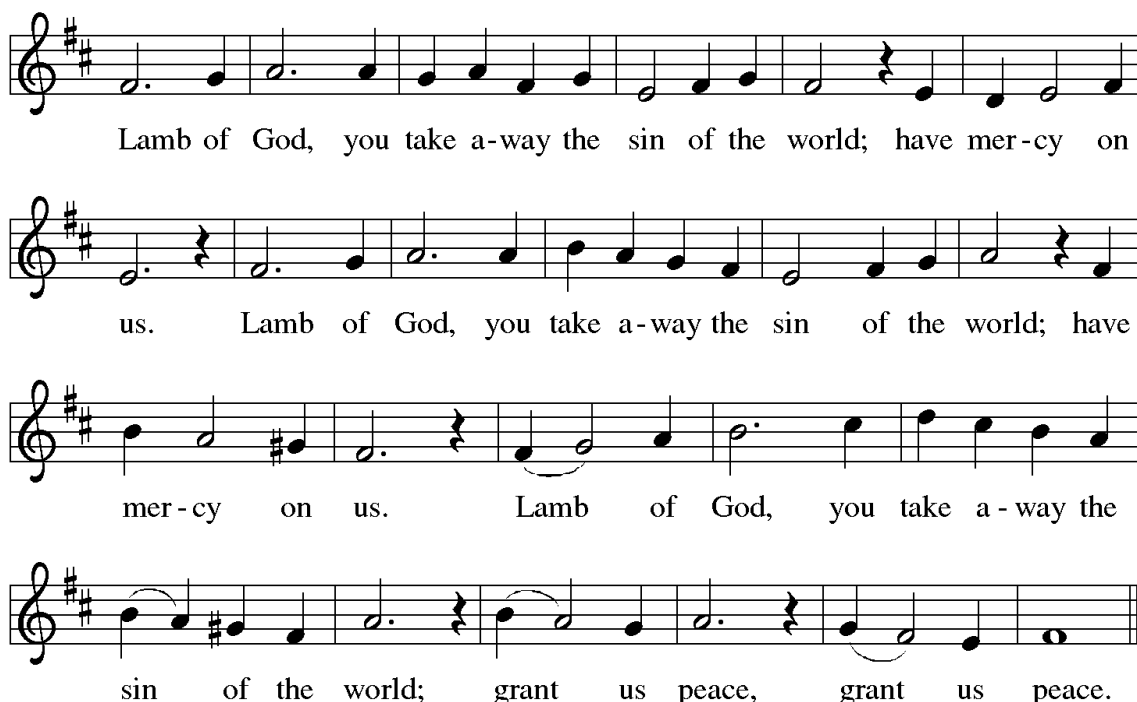
COMMUNION

The congregation may be seated.

All are welcome at communion without exception for it is Christ who first welcomed us. The Lord's table is open.

Your row will be invited up the aisle to receive communion, beginning first with the left side of the nave followed by the two right sections. The minister will place bread (body) in your hand saying, "The Body of Christ, given for you," after that you may follow the line toward the chalice and receive the wine (blood) from the assistant minister who will say "The Blood of Christ, shed for you." You may then dip the bread into the cup of wine (red), or grape juice (white). Once you have communed you may head back to your pew.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Christmas Day
Hymn
Hymn

Gustav Holst
What Child Is This (ELW 296)
In the Bleak Midwinter (ELW 294)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The congregation may stand.

Let us pray together.

Merciful God,

we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

**Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace,
comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.**

Amen.

+ Sending +

PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

During the reading of the Proclamation, light is passed from the Christ candle to each worshiper. Light your candle by tipping your unlit candle over your neighbor's burning candle. Never tip a burning candle.

HYMN

Silent Night



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

BENEDICTION

The God of love,
 Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
 lavish you with grace, illumine your path,
 and increase your joy, today and always.
Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (ELW 270)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We Wish You A Merry Christmas

Worship materials adapted this day from multiple ecumenical partners including the Episcopal Church, USA, and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (2023).

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- Scripture readings from the NRSV

SERVING TONIGHT

Interim Minister:

Alex W. Linn

Interim Director of Music:

Leo Radosavljevic

Director of Youth & Families:

Evergreen Edwards

Cantor:

Angela De Venuto

Vocalists:

Cara Collins

Lauren Florek

Andrew Morstein

Daniella Pepe

Assisting Minister:

Chris Maglocchi

Crucifer:

Aidan Maglocchi

Torch Bearers:

Mae Loesel, Finny Maglocchi

Ushers:

John Hauser, Peter Hauser,

Tom Morrison

Altar Guild:

Jan Wendel, Kim Banach

Livestream Camera:

Jason Shutters

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24, 2024
9:00 PM

+ **Gathering** +

PRELUDE

Ave Maria

Franz Liszt

RINGING OF THE BELL

At the sound of the bell, the congregation is invited to rise as you are able and face the narthex.

WELCOME

We gather this night to celebrate the light that shines in the darkness for we hold vigil in anticipation of the nativity of our Lord. In a few moments we will dim the lights and you will be invited to turn and face the processional into the Church. The paschal candle will pause three times on its way into the nave.

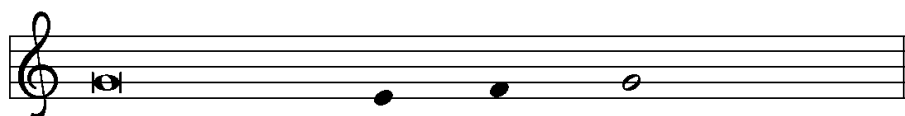
OPENING DIALOGUE AND CANDLE PROCESSION



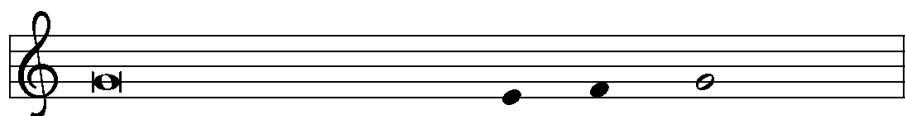
The light shines in the darkness, **and the darkness has not ov - er - come it.**



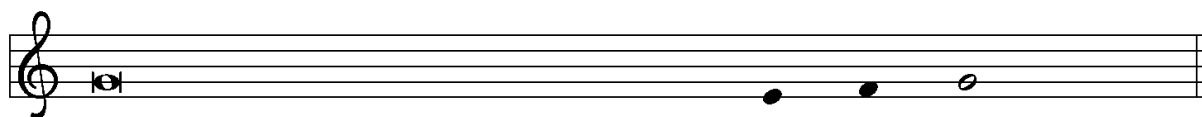
The Word became flesh and lived a - mong us,



and we have be - held Christ's glory.



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

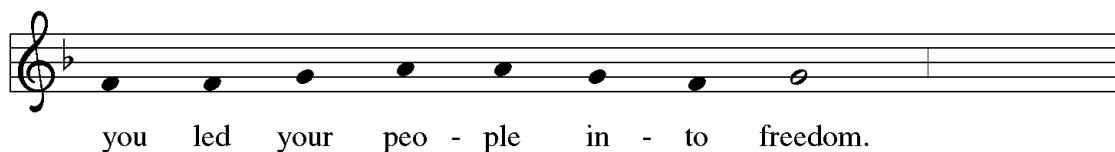
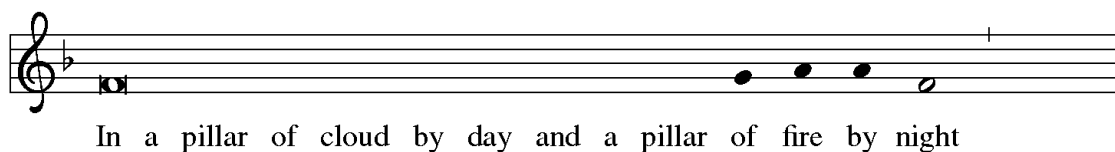
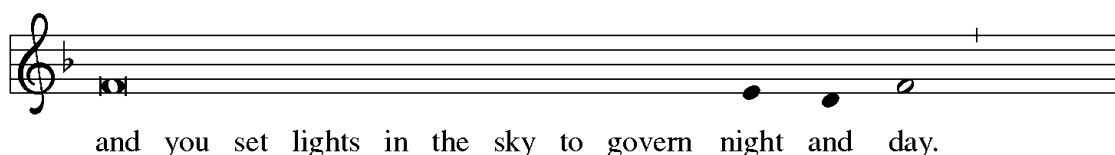
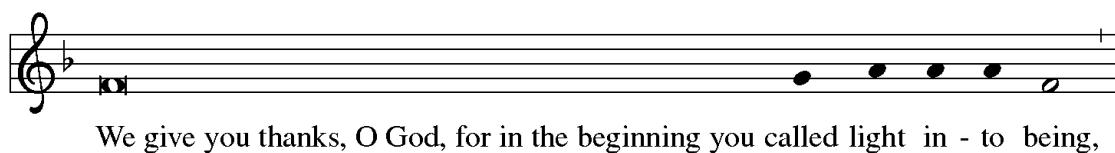
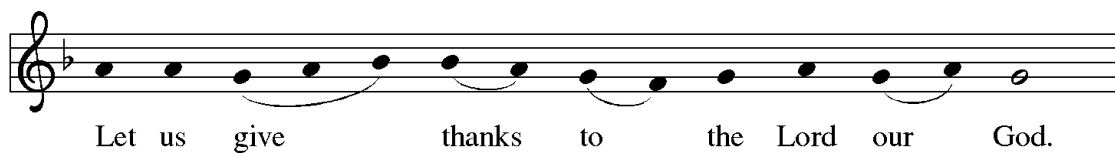
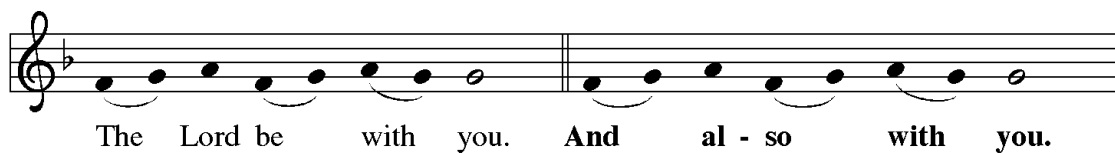


In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

HYMN OF LIGHT

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (ELW 282)

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT



Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be

a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer-ci - ful,

and you love your whole cre-a-tion, and with all your crea-tures we give you glory,

through your Son Je - sus Christ, in the unity of the Ho - ly Spirit,

now and for - ev - er. A - men.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

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.

+ **Word** +

READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

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 have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined.
³You have multiplied the nation,
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 as with joy at the harvest,
 as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴For the yoke of their burden,
 and the bar across their shoulders,
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⁶For a child has been born for us,
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Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
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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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (ELW 284)

READING

Titus 2:11-14

A reading from Titus.

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He 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.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

*The congregation may stand and face the cross
as it moves to the center of the aisle.*

Angels, from the Realms of Glory (ELW 266, vs. 1 & 2)

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The holy gospel according to Luke.

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.

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¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at

what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory (ELW 275, vs. 3 & 4)

HOMILY

The congregation may be seated.
Vicar Alex Linn

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Christmas Night (ELW 274)

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**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 THE PEOPLE

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people. You may assume a posture of prayer by sitting, standing or kneeling.

Silence

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict, in Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Sudan. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (wave, handshake, hug, etc.), honoring the personal boundaries of all. Those online may unmute and verbally share the peace.

+ Meal +

OFFERTORY

We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Holy Night

Adolph Adam

OFFERTORY VERSE

The congregation may stand.
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (ELW 276)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.
God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day. Amen.

DIALOGUE & PROPER PREFACE

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

As the shadows lengthen,
we bless you, sheltering God.

We glorify you for the endless, starlit sky, deep with the mystery of your creative labor through all time and space.

We praise you for the fertile earth and for the life its darkness holds and births: plants of every variety, animals curled in sleep, humankind you shaped by your own hand.

Stay with us, for it is evening.

Stay with us, for it is evening.

Through the night you led your people into freedom.

At day's end you rained down manna in the wilderness.

At sundown your Son brought healing to people in need.

In the midday night when Jesus died on the cross, life came forth for all.

Stay with us, for it is evening.

Stay with us, for it is evening.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
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.

Our hearts burn within us as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Like a mother hen, hold us close through the coming night.
Watch with those who labor, accompany those who long for peaceful sleep,
welcome those whose waking will be only in you.
Into our deepest night, come, Lord Jesus.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Holy Spirit, make here the body of Christ: in the breaking of the bread,
in justice for our broken world, in rest for the weary, come, Holy Spirit.
Come, Holy Spirit.

To you, O God,
painter of both night and day,
guiding star and healing sun,
breath of peace and wind of change,
be all glory, all honor, all praise
this night unto the coming dawn, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

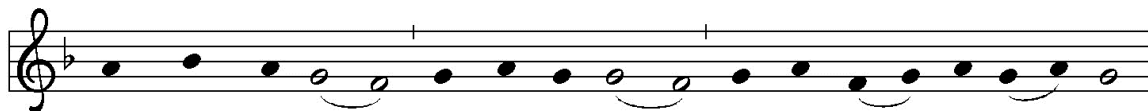
The cantor introduces the Lord's Prayer



Gathered into one by the Ho-ly Spir - it, let us pray as Je-sus taught us.



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

COMMUNION

The congregation may be seated.

All are welcome at communion without exception for it is Christ who first welcomed us. The Lord's table is open.

Your row will be invited up the aisle to receive communion, beginning first with the left side of the nave followed by the two right sections. The minister will place bread (body) in your hand saying, "The Body of Christ, given for you," after that you may follow the line toward the chalice and receive the wine (blood) from the assistant minister who will say "The Blood of Christ, shed for you." You may then dip the bread into the cup of wine (red), or grape juice (white). Once you have communed you may head back to your pew.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Christmas Day

Hymn

Hymn

Gustav Holst

What Child Is This (ELW 296)

In the Bleak Midwinter (ELW 294)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The congregation may stand.

Let us pray together.

Merciful God,

we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

**Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace,
comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.**

Amen.

+ Sending +

PROCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

During the reading of the Proclamation, light is passed from the Christ candle to each worshiper. Light your candle by tipping your unlit candle over your neighbor's burning candle. Never tip a burning candle.

HYMN:

Silent Night



Stil - le	Nacht,	hei - li - ge	Nacht!	Al - les	schläft,
1 Si - lent	night,	ho - ly	night!	All	is calm,
2 Si - lent	night,	ho - ly	night!	Shep - herds	quake
3 Si - lent	night,	ho - ly	night!	Son	of God,



ein - sam	wacht	nur	das	trau - te,	hoch - hei - li - ge	Paar.
all	is	bright	round	yon	vir - gin	moth - er and child.
at	the	sight;	glo - ries	stream	from	heav - en a - far,
love's	pure	light	ra - diant	beams	from	your ho - ly face,



Hold - er	Kna - be	im	lok - ki - gen	Haar,	schlaf	in	himm - li - scher
Ho - ly	In - fant,	so	ten - der	and mild,	sleep	in	heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly	hosts . . .	sing,	al - le - lu - ia!	Christ, the	Sav - ior,	is	
with the	dawn of	re - deem - ing	grace,	Je - sus,	Lord,	at your	



Ruh,	schlaf	in	himm - li - scher	Ruh.
peace,	sleep	in	heav - en - ly	peace.
born!	Christ,	the	Sav - ior,	is born!
birth,	Je - sus,	Lord,	at your	birth.

BENEDICTION

The peace of God through the night
Which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in ☩ Christ Jesus.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Ríu Ríu Chíu

16th Century Spanish, Villancico

Worship materials adapted this day from multiple ecumenical partners including the Episcopal Church, USA, and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (2023).

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SERVING TONIGHT

Interim Minister:

Interim Director of Music:

Director of Youth & Families:

Cantor:

Vocalists:

Assisting Minister:

Altar Guild:

Livestream Camera:

Alex W. Linn

Leo Radosavljevic

Evergreen Edwards

Angela De Venuto

Cara Collins

Lauren Florek

Andrew Morstein

Daniella Pepe

Jan Wendel

Cindi Rachowicz, Jan Wendel

Jason Shutters

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Year-End Donations 2024

Are you considering a donation to St. John's before the end of the year? 2024 donations must be hand-delivered, postmarked, or electronically submitted by December 31st to be counted as a 2024 donation. Any checks dated December 31 and postmarked or hand delivered in January will be counted as a 2025 donation.

You can donate electronically at our website, www.stjohnswilmette.com

Click on the "donate" button in the upper right-hand corner. You may also download the app "Give+" by Vanco Services.

As you consider an end-of-year contribution, please keep in mind that RMD distributions and stock gifts are welcome options for giving. These must also be made by December 31 to qualify as a 2024 donation. If you have already met your RMD for 2024, we encourage you to consider this option for your 2025 giving.

Finally, if you are prepaying your 2025 pledge/donation, please make a note of this when you submit your gift. Donations submitted on or before December 31st that are indicated as being for 2025 will be recorded on your 2024 giving statement (and tax-deductible in 2024) but recognized in St. John's 2025 financial reporting.

If you'd like to know the balance of your pledge or have any questions, please contact Michel Hauser michelhauser@outlook.com. Cell 847 293 3113 or Athina Sato at treasurer@stjohnswilmette.com.

IN OUR PRAYERS

- Family & friends of Marie Louise Williams, mother of Christi Wise, who passed away 12/11/24.
- Skip Cordts, brother of Rachel Cordts, recovering from heart issues.
- Marlene Leonard, recovering from throat cancer, 9/25/24
- Friend and business partner of Mylene Pollock, who lives in Buncombe County, North Carolina, and everyone who has been affected by the hurricane
- Art Wise, recovering from knee replacement surgery
- Family and friends of Rena Leinberger, wife of Karl and mother of Shayna, Brandon and Jordon, who passed away 4/26/24
- Family & friends of Lorraine Beutelspacher, who passed away 3/6/24
- Buckley Crist
- Family & friends of Don Clay, who passed away 3/15/24
- Family & friends of Peter Knobel, who passed away 1/13/24
- Family & friends of Hing You Tam Siu, mother-in-law of Jim Dossa, who passed away
- Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- Karen Brunn, daughter of Dave & Lyn Braun, recovering

POINSETTIAS

The poinsettias decorating the church this Christmas are given to the glory of God by:

- Lyn & Dave Brunn, in thanksgiving for Karen & her family and Kathy & her family.
- Rachel Cordts, in loving memory of Rachel E. and William J. Cordts.
- Buckley and Susan Crist, in thanksgiving for family and friends.
- The Danielsen Family, in thanksgiving to God that their family can be together for Christmas.
- Carl Freedlund, Jeongok Kang, Jeannie Freedlund and John Freedlund, in loving memory of Karen Ramson (nee Freedlund).
- The Peter Hauser Family, in loving memory of Cyril Hauser and George Lutjen.
- Ken and Diane Kastman, in loving memory of Carolyn Groves.
- Alex Linn, in loving memory of Justin Dean “Beefy” Biegger.
- The Loesel family, in thanksgiving for Barbara and Larry Loesel and in thanksgiving for good health and all of God’s blessings!
- Jan Rassenfoss and Alan Swanson, in thanksgiving for family and friends.
- Robert & Delilah Ratz, in thanksgiving for family.
- Alla Rusz, in loving memory of Richard Rusz.
- Alan & Libby Staton, in loving memory of Justin Biegger and in thanksgiving for the staff at St. John’s.
- Jan Wendel, in loving memory of Doris and Charles Regan, Kevin Beretta and Tom Wendel.
- Nancy and Larry Wood, in thanksgiving for friends and family.