

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH – January 2nd, 2021**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
**DECEMBER-FEBRUARY WORSHIP 8:30AM**

**PRELUDE BY SHIRLEY BERGMAN**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN: Hark the Herald Angels Sing ELW 270**

**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!"**

**Refrain**

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

**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**

**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**

## **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. **Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, your Spirit brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Breathe life into us, that we are inspired to live in harmony with one another and the planet. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Shepherding God, you lead your people in paths of righteousness. Raise up prophets in our own day who warn against captivity to greed and point us to the freedom found in generosity. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing God, you come near in times of worry and need. Cradle us in your arms, that we trust you and are not afraid. Attend to any who are hungry, imprisoned, or ill this day (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing God, you exult over us in singing. Enliven the song of this assembly and bless the ministry of church musicians. With instruments and dance, join our voices to the song of all creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for your servants who showed us your goodness and grace. By the power of your Spirit, keep us steadfast in faith until we make our home with you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, 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.**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

*\*Please be seated.*

Friends of Jesus, receive nourishment for your journey. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

### **Communion HYMN: *Love Has Come, ELW 292***

1 Love has come—a light in the darkness!  
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;  
hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!  
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.  
Love is God now asleep in the hay.

See the glow in the eyes of his mother;  
what is the name her heart is saying?  
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;  
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

3 Love has come and never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us.  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;  
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: *Angels We Have Heard on High*, ELW 275**

1 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.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song? Refrain

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. Refrain

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

#### **Scene 1: The Best Gift Ever**

**Song-- *Joy to the World* (sung by kids)**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: *The First Noel*, ELW 300**

**1** The first Noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

***Refrain***

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the King of Israel.**

**2** They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. ***Refrain***

**3** And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. ***Refrain***

**4** This star drew near to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay. ***Refrain***

**5** Then entered in those wise men three,  
full rev'rently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. ***Refrain***

**Scene 2: The Savior's Birth**

**Songs-- *Away in a Manger* (sung by kids)**

***Go Tell It on the Mountain* (sung by kids)**

**CANDLE LIGHTING AND CLOSING HYMN: *Silent Night*, 281**

**1** 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.

- 2 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!**
- 3 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.**

**Dismissal by children**

**Postlude**

### **THANK YOU**

A huge THANK YOU to all the children and youth who are participating in our Christmas Program this year: Karsten Nuehring, Jordyn Bergman, Carmen Nuehring, Caroline Rod, Kohl Nuehring, Brinley Bergman, Carsyn Niichel, Keaton Lysne, Kash Niichel, Erick Rod, Kyle Nuehring, Landon Bergman, Kyler Lysne, and Alicia Rod.

Also a huge THANK YOU to Katey Niichel and Crystal Lysne, who coordinated and directed the Christmas program, and to Shirley Bergman and Jessica Saunders, who coordinated the music. Your efforts have paid off!

### **Announcements**

**Sunday Worship time is 8:30 AM December 5-February 27.**

**Donations:** If you would like to donate to ALC member **Stephanie Winkelpleck** (to help with her medical expenses for Acute Myeloid Leukemia) you can designate your donation on your check.

**Caring Bridge** link: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/stephaniewittwinkelpleck>.

**ALC Committees:** Council will be looking to fill committee openings for 2022. Please consider sharing your time and talents as we try to establish a three-year

rotation. We currently have openings on **Property, Technology, Hospitality, Worship and Music.**

**Prayer Shawl** meets Tuesdays, 10 AM - noon. Enjoy fellowship while knitting and crocheting. New members welcome. The shawls and blankets are shared with those who are ill, grieving, and in need of comfort.

**Quilting for Lutheran World Relief:** Our next work day is January 10, 2022 at 1:00 PM. We gather every second and fourth Monday to cut, pin, sew, iron, and tie quilts. Come join us!

**Sheets for Quilting needed:** Sheets for quilt backs can be put in the back pew. Thanks for your help.

**Thank you:** Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. The craftsmanship and color are gorgeous and it will definitely be used and enjoyed each and every day. God Bless You All- Joanne Thompson

**Thank you:** How nice to be thought of in such a "Warm manner." Love the Prayer Shawl. Dar Thompson

**Thank you:** Thank you for your donation of 37.3 lbs of food. Bless your giving heart. -Independence Area Food pantry

**Thank you, ALC.** response in giving gift cards, money to purchase gift cards and in-kind donations to Bremwood was overwhelming. ALC gave over \$1,100 in Walmart gift cards and in-kind donations to the residents at the Bremwood Residential Treatment Center. Your compassion and thoughtfulness will help these teenagers enjoy Christmas and the holiday season, some of whom will not be with their families. Thank you again. Truly you are living the "God's Work, Our Hands" motto of the ELCA.

**Mobile Giving App** If you give your regular contributions using Give Plus App, we have been notified that they will stop supporting the Give Plus app as of January 31, 2022. You should download the new app called Vanco Mobile to continue using. Note: your username and password will remain the same, and any recurring payments you have scheduled will continue in the new app. **If you do not currently have anything setup, now is a great time to download the Vanco Mobile app and start your recurring giving today.**

**Military members:** Jordan and Justin are at the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City, IA. Jeryn Loyd is in the Army Reserves and is a student at Iowa State. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We'd like to remember them in our prayers.

**ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:**

Pastor: Pastor Kristen Rod

Music: Shirley Bergman

Usher: Wayne Schneider

**THIS WEEK AT ALC**

**Sunday January 2nd:**

8:30pm Worship and Communion and Sunday School Program

**Tuesday January 4th:**

10-12pm Prayer Shawl

**Wednesday January 5th:** 7pm Confirmation

**Thursday January 6th:**

9:30pm Women's Bible Study

**Sunday January 9th:**

8:30am Worship and Communion

**BY THE NUMBERS**

Attendance: 12/26/21– 7

Current: \$16398.96

Offering: 12/30/21

Current: \$960

Benevolence: \$70

Improvement: \$80

Non Synod Benevolence: \$130