



# Christmas Eve

*December 24, 2021*

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

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[www.lordoflifeak.com](http://www.lordoflifeak.com)

*Welcome!* Words in **bold** are said together.

*Welcome*

*Gathering Hymn – O Come, All Ye Faithful #283*

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:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
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!  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God in the highest:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
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:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*Confession and Forgiveness*

*Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **Congregation: Amen.***

*L: In Christ we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace. (silence for reflection)*

*L: Holy God, **C: we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.***

*L: I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. + In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **C: Amen.***

## *Christmas Carol— Joy to the World #267*

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
4. 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, and wonders of his love.

*Prayer of the Day* — **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.**

### *Scripture Readings*

Isaiah 9:2-7 p. 555

<sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>You 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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>His 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.**

Psalms 96 p. 479

<sup>1</sup>O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

**<sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.**

<sup>4</sup>For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

<sup>5</sup>For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

**<sup>6</sup>Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**<sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

**<sup>10</sup>Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

<sup>12</sup>let the field exult, and everything in it.

**Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy**

**<sup>13</sup>before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.**

Titus 2:11-14 p. 969

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

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

*Christmas Carol— O Little Town of Bethlehem #279 (v. 1-2)*

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.
2. 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!

The holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 2:1-20 p. 832

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

<sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>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 for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>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: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When 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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The 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.**

*Christmas Carol– O Little Town of Bethlehem #279 (v. 3-4)*

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 can hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
4. 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!

*Children's Message and Christmas Message*

Pastor Curt Matz

*Hymn of the Day– Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #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!"  
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 God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as one with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"
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.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

*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. (cont.)**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

*Offering* – Offering baskets will be passed during worship

◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705

◇ Online: “giving” tab at [www.lordoflifeak.com/giving](http://www.lordoflifeak.com/giving) or the QR Code →

◇ Phone app: download “Give Plus Church” search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



*Offering Hymn – What Can I Bring?* (lyrics will appear on screen)

*Offering Prayer* – **Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*Prayers of God’s People*

Each petition ends “*Lord, in your mercy,*” please respond: **hear our prayer.**

*Christ’s Words of Institution and Communion*

We eat and drink together at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

*The Lord’s Prayer*

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught 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.**

*Christmas Carol – Away in a Manger #277*

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head;  
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
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  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
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 Prayer*

*Candle Lighting*

*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.

*Blessing and Dismissal*

*L: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. C: Thanks be to God.*

***Special Thanks to...***

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Ushers, Brenda Sadler & Jo Small

Pianist, Carol Hughes  
PowerPoint, Sam Aleshire  
Reader, Janis Robertson

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