

**December 24, 2025 – 4 PM**  
***Christmas Eve***



*Ringing of Bell*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING & LITANY**

*Light all wreath candles*

L: As we celebrate the birth of Jesus and rejoice in His coming to us, we light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and the Christ Candle.

**C: Jesus Christ is our Hope.**

**Jesus Christ is our Peace.**

**Jesus Christ is our Joy.**

**Jesus Christ is Love – pure, holy, undying love.**

L: For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son; that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life.

**C: Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!**

◆ **O Come All Ye Faithful** No. 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!**

**GREETING**

P: The glory of God has been revealed and all people shall see it together.  
Today, Christ is born.

**C: Glory to God in the highest!**

***I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve*** No. 271

**1 I am so glad each Christmas Eve, the night  
of Jesus' birth! Then like the sun the star  
shone forth, and angels sang on earth.**

**2 The little child in Bethlehem, he was a king  
indeed! For he came down from heav'n  
above to help a world in need.**

**3 He dwells again in heaven's realm, the Son  
of God today; and still he loves his little  
ones and hears them when they pray.**

**4 I am so glad each Christmas Eve! His  
praises then I sing; he opens now for ev'ry  
child the palace of the king.**

**5 And so I love each Christmas Eve, and I  
love Jesus too; and that he loves me ev'ry  
day, I know so well is true.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** We pray together

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**C: God of light, God of stars and angels, God  
of weary travelers and stables, God of hard  
labor and new birth, we come today to  
worship you. Open our eyes to your glory,  
open our ears to your wisdom, open our  
hearts to your love, as we come to worship  
Jesus, the newborn king. AMEN.**

*Please be seated*

**FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7**

**2 The people who walked in darkness have seen  
a great light; those who lived in a land of deep  
dark-ness —on them light has shined. **3**You have  
multi-plied the nation, 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**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.**

◆ **THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: LUKE 2:1-14**

**C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Congregation reads bold print.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Away In a Manger

No. 277

**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, 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 thee there.**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” **C. To us is born a Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**P: The Gospel of the Lord.**

**C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**CHILDREN'S WORD**

**MESSAGE Pastor D.J. Chatelaine**

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

**No. 282**

**1** **It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: “Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all-gracious king.” The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**2** **Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heav’ly music floats o’er all the weary world. Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing, and ever o’er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.**

**3** **And you, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow: look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing; oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!**

**4** **For lo! The days are hast’ning on, by prophets seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold, when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Hear us O God. C: Your mercy is great.

## SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.  
C: And also with you.

## OFFERING— OFFERTORY: Aldorfer Brass

*Children are invited to bring an offering to the globe in the front of the church.*

### ♦ OFFERING PRAYER

L. God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow.  
**C Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION – LORD'S PRAYER

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.*

*Please be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS

***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

No. 279

**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!**

**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.**

**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!**

## What Child Is This

No. 296

**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!**

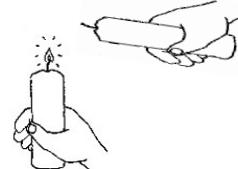
**2 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**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!**

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

**♦ CANDLELIGHTING:** For Fire Safety—No candles to infants/toddlers/young children.



**Tip Unlit Candle to Light**

**Hold Lit Candle Upright**

After Candles are lit, we sing:

***Silent Night***

No. 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'ly 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.**

★ Brief Silence

★ Carefully Extinguish Candle

★ Hold Candle Upright until wax is hard

BENEDICTION, SENDING, DISMISSAL >>

## BENEDICTION

**P:** God bless and keep you, + Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your heart. **C. AMEN.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Joy to The World*

No. 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, (repeat)  
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)  
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 (repeat)  
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, (repeat)  
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

*Ringing of Bell*

## DISMISSAL

**L:** Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Aldorfer Brass*

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## PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—Pastor D.J. Chatelaine

ACOLYTE—Harvey Bauer

ADVENT FAMILY—Fletchers

WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Tammy Fletcher

ORGANIST—Tammy Hanson

BRASS PLAYERS—Mike, Ross & Seth Aldorfer

COMMUNION SET-UP—

GREETERS—

COMMUNION SERVERS—Ed & Tammy Fletcher

TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Steve Johnson,

Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson, Luke Cordes

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Jennifer Lerfald, Lavon Underdahl, Jim Fountaine, Dax Eggert, Larry Walker, Renee Spidahl-Carmichael, Tim Emerson, & Anne Laue.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LITURGICAL TEXTS USED WITH PERMISSION: Under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB143702.

PUBLIC DOMAIN: *O Come All Ye Faithful, , Away in a Manger, It Came Upon a Midnight Clear, O Little Town of Bethlehem, What Child Is This, Silent Night, Joy to the World*

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OL/SKU #08637 I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve

## CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUN 12-28	9 AM LAY-LED WORSHIP – READINGS & CAROLS 10 AM Coffee - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL - - <b>PICK UP PLANTS BY JAN 1 -</b>
WED 1-1	<i>Happy New Year!</i>
SUN 1-4	9 AM WORSHIP – <b>EPIPHANY</b> 10 AM Coffee - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL – 3 PM <b>Aspelund Emmanuel Choir</b> Concert - 'JESUS - LOVE'S PURE LIGHT' - Light supper follows
SUN 1-25	<i>Annual Meeting Date</i>

## ANNOUNCEMENT

 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES are ready  
for pick up in the Narthex.

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## FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

309 Forest St., Kenyon, MN 55946

PASTOR D.J. CHATELAINE Phone: 507-213-0708

Email: [flickenyonpastor@gmail.com](mailto:flickenyonpastor@gmail.com)

CHURCH OF GOD Phone: 507-789-5261

Email: [firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com)

YOUTH DIRECTOR, BRYANA LOTHERT

Phone 507-210-0814 Email: [flyouth45@gmail.com](mailto:flyouth45@gmail.com)

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

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