



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS EVE

FRIDAY, DEC. 24, 2021 | 5 PM

Welcome!

Welcome to Christmas, the Nativity of Our Lord, at Luther Memorial. In every season of life, we invite your participation in the community of Christ the Gift. Whether in worship, study, fellowship or service, we welcome you and we welcome all to the Gift. Take part!

During worship

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

This service may be livestreamed on our website at www.luthermem.org and YouTube. Cameras are installed in the nave, and worshipers may occasionally be visible on this broadcast.

PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in the Grainger Hall parking ramp, one block east of the church, off Brooks Street. For closer access, parking is reserved in the garage under the church off Conklin Place alley.

RESOURCES

T-coil audio is available in the nave. Ushers can provide hearing assistance and a wheelchair, if needed. Prayer shawls are available in the narthex.

CHILDCARE

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms. The nursery will be open but unstaffed.

HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. Please ask a pastor for a gluten-free communion wafer, if needed.

LEARN MORE

If you would like a pastor to call, or want to learn more, please fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate.

PRELUDE Go Tell It on the Mountain

Kendall Oelkers, piano

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentleman | Traditional
Kole Consigny, piano

Joy to the World | Traditional
Emma Heggeseth, piano

Silent Night
Roman Worzala Dumke, piano

Cantique de Noël | Adolphe Adam; arr. K. Krantz
Martin Gruber, viola; Tamara Gruber, cello; Bonnie Gruber, violin

O Little Town of Bethlehem | arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella | arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Handbell Ensemble

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

GATHERING

#283 ENTRANCE HYMN Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

- Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the king of angels:
Refrain: Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
- 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*)
- Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: (*Refrain*)
- 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*)

APOSTOLIC 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.

#275 HYMN OF PRAISE Angels, from the Realms of Glory (*Stanza 1*)

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that we may walk in the light of Christ and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING *Isaiah 9:2-7*

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. 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. 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL *Luke 2:1-20*

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

READING *Luke 2:1-7*

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. 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. 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.

#279 HYMN O Little Town of Bethlehem (*Stanza 1*)

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. He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly,
lived on earth our Savior holy.
3. And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.
4. Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.
Please greet your neighbor: Peace be with you.

MEAL

Please sit.
OFFERING

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING A Christmas Prelude | arr. Charles Callahan

Please stand.

#296 OFFERTORY What Child Is This (*Stanza 3*)

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!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.
Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is more rhythmic and varied than the first section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... until he comes.

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

The musical notation consists of a single staff of music. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

Remembering, therefore... now and forever.

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

The musical notation consists of a single staff of music. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Sung by all*)



Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be



thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,



on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our



dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,



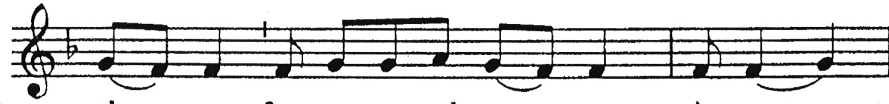
as we for- give those who tres- pass a- gainst us; and lead us



not in- to temp- ta- tion, but de- liv- er us from e- vil.



For thine is the king- dom, and the pow- er, and the



glo- ry, for- ev- er and ev- er. A- men.

Please sit.

THE COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. We receive the Body of Christ (bread) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup; persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread. The Blood of Christ (wine) may be received in any of three ways: by drinking from the first chalice, by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice, or by drinking from an individual glass poured from a second chalice. Persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread.*

**Gluten-free bread is available on request.*

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Coventry Carol & Greensleeves | Elliot and Sebastian Knapp

COMMUNION HYMNS

- #270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
- #277 Away in a Manger
- #288 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
- #274 On Christmas Night

Please stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*The congregation receives candlelight from the torchbearers and ushers. When passing the light, **tip the unlighted candle.** Extinguish your candle after the blessing.*

#281 CHRISTMAS CANTICLE Silent Night, Holy Night

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the font.

#267 RECESSIONAL HYMN Joy to the World

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, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE In Dulci Jubilo | Johann Sebastian Bach

Honoring & Remembering at Christmas

This Christmas Eve, as we celebrate the gift of the Incarnation, we are thankful for the generous gifts you have made to ELCA World Hunger and toward the cost of Christmas trees, garlands and poinsettias. We are blessed by your continued support of the mission and ministry of Luther Memorial Church and the work we do together in His name.

ELCA World Hunger

Sandy Bertics in memory of Vicky Bertics

Sandy Bertics in memory of Paul Bertics

Paul and Kathy Brammeier in memory of Orric and Edna Culp

Paul Brammeier in memory of the the Rev. Herbert and Emma Brammeier

Elaine Burmeister in memory of Robert Burmeister

Bob Edwards in memory of Mary Collins

Cliff and Dorothy Haaland in memory of loved ones

Jan and Jane Hall in memory of David Christopher Hall

Mary Jean Huston in memory of Ralph E. Huston

Mary Jean Huston in memory of Amelia Egelhoff

John and Kay Kaltenberg in honor of John, Lisa, John Joseph & Eli

John and Kay Kaltenberg in honor of Amanda, Steve, Autumn & Vivian

John and Kay Kaltenberg in honor of Matthew & Adam

Woody Klipp in honor of Barbara J. Klipp

Connie Lavine and Fred Holtzman in honor of Robert Lavine

Peter and Annette Mahler in honor of Ben Mahler & family and Claire Mahler

Doris Marten in memory of Albert & Marilla Stockland and Julia Marten

Margaret Miner in memory of Ruth Miner

Heidi and Tom Notbohm in memory of our parents

Terry Peterson in memory of Linda Peterson

Phyllis and John Pleuss in memory of Howard and Carole Pleuss

Phyllis and John Pleuss in memory of Gwen Saylor and Floyd Grothman

Randy and Debbie Raasch in memory of Kathleen and William Raasch

Robert and Marsha Steffen

Stephen Theis in memory of Dorothy and David Theis

Jeffrey Van Fleet

Cynthia Vander Woude in memory of Bob Gustafson

Cynthia Vander Woude in memory of Lester and Marie Gustafson

Janet Zentner, Brenda Ryther & Helen Hartman in honor of Maria Brown
for her colossal work on LM's Christmas gift program

Greenery

Rebecca Behrens and Blake Merriman in honor of Jim and Jane Behrens
Sandy Bertics in memory of Vicky Bertics
Beth and Dave Bray in memory of Gerald Freudenburg and Adele Bray
Charles Craig in memory of William and Suzanne Craig
Sam and Natalie Curtis in honor of their grandparents
Monsine DiSalvo and John Sheehan in memory of Minnie DiSalvo
Cliff and Dorothy Haaland in memory of loved ones
Bob and Bevi Haimerl in memory of Haimerl family members
Bob and Bevi Haimerl in memory of Lautz family members
Jan and Jane Hall in memory of David Christopher Hall
Karen Harris in memory of Phil Harris
Eileen Hodge in memory of Robert Hodge
Mary Jean Huston in memory of Ruth K. Huston
Mary Jean Huston in memory of Alice McNaught
William and Julie Johnson in honor of Phyllis Pleuss
Durwood Klipp in memory of Wilbert and Lucille Klipp
Barbara Koller in memory of Lewis Bosworth and Terry Allen
Steve and Karole Leadholm in honor of Leadholm family
Pat Mair in honor of Jim and Sharon Burton
Pat Mair in honor of Pastor Brad and Pastor John
Pat Mair in memory of Avis and Victor Anderson
Pat Mair in memory of Jeffery Anderson
Pat Mair in memory of June and John Anderson
Doris Marten in memory of Wally Marten
Nancy Miller in memory of Jerry Miller
Margaret Miner in honor of Walter H. Miner
Heidi and Tom Notbohm in honor of our children and grandchildren
Eric and Casey Oelkers in memory of Irmgard Oelkers
Terry Peterson in memory of Linda Peterson
Phyllis and John Pleuss in memory of Kay Willson
Phyllis and John Pleuss in memory of Phillip Herring
Randy and Debbie Raasch in memory of Donald and Gary Severson
Joe Ryther Clark in honor of Lucy Ryther
Burt and Karen Scheele in memory of our parents
Robert and Marsha Steffen in memory of Karl and Arleen Zuehlke
Robert and Marsha Steffen in memory of Elmer and Geneva Steffen
Martha Taylor in memory of Esther Hougen Taylor
Stephen Theis in memory of Dorothy and David Theis
Paul Twardy and Kris Gruber-Twardy in memory of our parents
Jeffrey Van Fleet in memory of Nancy and Rudy Van Fleet
Cynthia Vander Woude in memory of Dick Vander Woude
Cynthia Vander Woude in memory of Grace and Gene Wongstrom
Bill and Cindy Wiedholz in memory of our moms—Aud, Maurine and Ginny

TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Christ is born. He is born to us. And, He is born *today*. For Christmas is not merely a day like every other day. It is a day made holy and special by a sacred mystery. It is not merely another day in the weary round of time. Today, eternity enters into time, and time, sanctified, is caught up into eternity. Today, Christ, the eternal Word of the Father, who was in the beginning with the Father, in whom all things were made, by whom all things consist, enters into the world which he created in order to reclaim souls who had forgotten their identity. Therefore, the church exults, as the angels come down to announce not merely an old thing which happened long ago, but a new thing which happens today. For today, God the Father makes all things new, in his divine Son, our redeemer, according to his words: *ecce nova facio omnia*.

Thomas Merton (1915–1968)

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
PREACHER	Pastor Brad Pohlman
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ASSISTING MINISTER	Amy Grunewald Mattison
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Al Larson, Elliott Mattison, Dietrich Mattison
LECTOR	Deb Raasch
CRUCIFER	Randy Raasch
SACRISTAN	Randy Raasch
HEAD USHER	Sue Bangert
VIDEO DIRECTOR	Lee Powell
SOUND OPERATOR	Lee Powell

Our thanks to Casey Oelkers, flute, for playing this evening.

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