



FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE
ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
4:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Rev. Paul Reichert, Pastor

December 24, 2020 - 4:00p.m.

Worship Notes: P: Pastor C: Congregation

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

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.

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.

Call to Worship

P: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given

C: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

P: Mighty God, Everlasting Father,

C: The Prince of Peace.

P: Let's join the celebration!

C: Amen!

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains

And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains

Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing,

Come, adore on bended knee Christ the new-born king.

Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo---ria, in excelsis Deo

Gathering Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: God of glory, heavenly angels spoke to earthly shepherds and you became one of us as a child in a manger. Through the telling of the Christmas story, may we be reminded of this wonderful event so that we might join our voices with the shepherds and all the heavenly host in praising the coming of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: LUKE 2:1-20

CONGREGATION SINGS:

***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.***

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²This was the first census that took place while¹ Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

CONGREGATION SINGS:

***O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born is us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!***

Christmas Carol

“Silent Night”

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,

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,

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

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

Message

“Away in a Manger”

*Christmas Carol

“What Child Is This”

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!

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!

*Christmas Prayers

***Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: And also with you.

(We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you.")

Special Music

HOLY COMMUNION

***The Thanksgiving**

(tune: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice")

P: Oh, may the good Lord be with you.

C: And may the Lord be with you too.

P: Lift your hearts to God in praise

C: To the Lord our hearts we raise.

P: Let us offer praises true.

C: It is fitting so to do.

Gratefully we sing,

To the Lord, our King!

***Words of Institution**

***The Lord's Prayer**

(tune: "Away in a Manger")

***Our Father in heaven, all praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same
By mortals and angels, Come, Lord, reign alone:
O hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.***

***The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;
As we forgive others take our sins away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver your children most dear.***

***For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign
And yours is the power; all things you maintain,
To you be the glory, resounding again
From all of creation, forever! Amen.***

Communion Distribution

***Blessing**

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

C: Amen

Hymn of Thanksgiving

(tune: Angels From the Realms of Glory)

***Thank the Lord with praises voicing, for God's promised faithfulness
All who seek the Lord rejoicing, tell Christ's love, His name
confess, For Christ leads us with thanksgiving in the path of
righteousness.***

***Prayer**

P: O Lord our God, with Mary and Joseph, angels and shepherds, and the animals in the stable, we gather around your Son, born for us. Bless us with your holy presence, and inspire us to help those who have no place to dwell. Be with us that we might share Christ's love with all the world, for he is our light and salvation. Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever.

C: Amen

***Benediction**

(tune: "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

P: Now may the good Lord bless and keep, Christ's love in you increase;
Lift up his face with shining grace, and grant eternal peace.

C: To Father, Son, and Spirit eternal One-in-Three

Be thanks and praise through all our days and to eternity!

***Closing Carol**

"Joy to the World"

***Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing...
And heaven and nature sing...
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.***

***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**

P: Go in peace and Celebrate Christ's birth!

C: Thanks be to God!

***Postlude**

“Joy to the World”

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Welcome to St. Martin's... We welcome you on this Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May you be blessed by His presence this day during your celebrations and throughout the coming New Year. If you are visiting with us for the first time, do come back to worship with us again and let us introduce ourselves and the Lord we serve.

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TONIGHT + Christmas Eve Celebration with Holy Communion – 7:00 pm
Live steamed on Facebook only, Pastor Paul preaching

Christmas Eve Candlelight with Holy Communion – 11:00pm
In-person and livestreamed on Facebook, Pastor Paul preaching

TOMORROW + Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion – 10:00am
In-person and livestreamed on Facebook, Deacon Steve preaching

NEXT SUNDAY + December 27 - 9:00 am Worship
In-person and livestreamed on Facebook, Deacon Steve preaching

