

Christmas Day

December 25, 2021

10:00 am Worship

St. Martin's Lutheran Church + Archbold, Ohio

www.the-welcome-place.org

CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25, 2021

✠ *Nativity of Our Lord* ✠

As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore...Savior, Christ, Lord.

Regular text is spoken by the Pastor or Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the congregation

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

– arr. R. Hobby

BELL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** – (*Isaiah 9, John 1 & Luke 2*)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!



*OPENING HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

And the moun-tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - ri - a

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

God of all ages, in the birth of Christ your boundless love for your people shattered the power of darkness. Be born in us with that same love and light, that our song may blend with all the choir of heaven and earth to the glory of your holy name.

Amen

We Hear God's Message for Us

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

OLD TESTAMENT READING - *Isaiah 52:7-10*

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Word of God come down to us.

Thanks be to God.

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



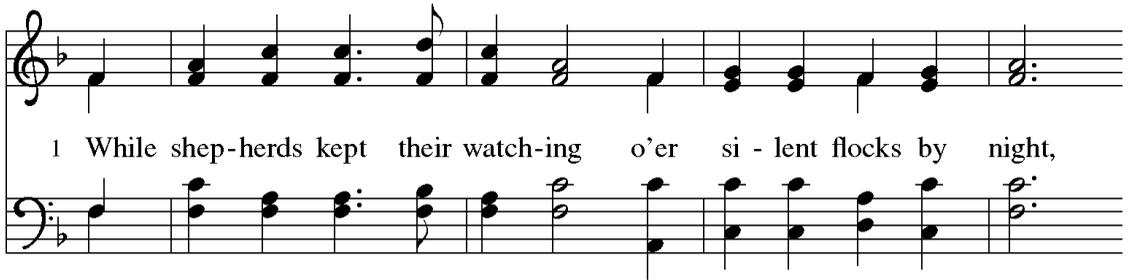
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

NEW TESTAMENT READING - *Hebrews 1:1-4*

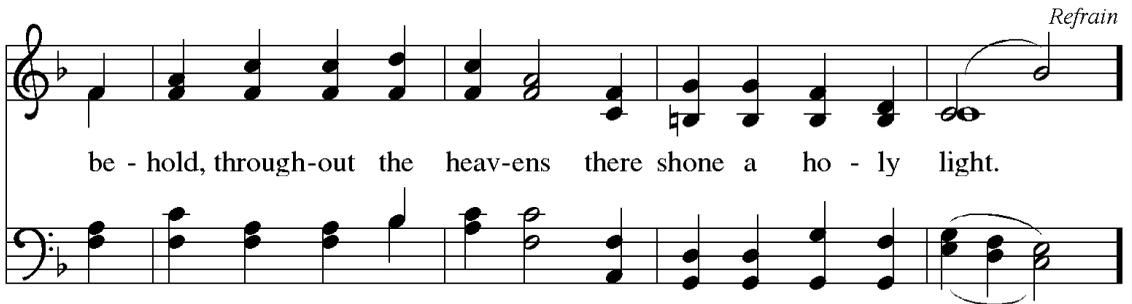
Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Word of God come down to us.

Thanks be to God.



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.

Refrain

THE CHRISTMAS STORY – *Luke 2:8-20*

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Word of God come down to us.

Thanks be to God.

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Refrain

GOSPEL READING - *John 1:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

***PROFESSION OF FAITH** – *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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

**Have mercy on those who struggle,
and all who suffer this day.**

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

**Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament
that we may share your light to all the world.**

Additional prayer petitions are offered here...concluding with:

By your grace, transform our prayers from words to deeds. With Mary and Joseph, teach us to treasure in our hearts the birth of Jesus, and with shepherds and angels, lead us to praise his holy name.

Amen

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (*We share God's peace with the words "Peace be with you"*)

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy God, Creator of all and source of life, at the birth of time your Word brought light into the world. On this Christmas Day, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your sons and daughters.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

All praise and glory are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

*BLESSING

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

Amen

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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. Strengthened by this sacrament, send us from this place so that we might share Christ's love with the entire world, for he is our light and salvation. Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever.

Amen

*BENEDICTION

Let us go from here proclaiming that we have seen the glory of God.

**Believing that there is a light that shines in the darkness
which the darkness cannot overcome.**

May the God of the angels, who heralded Christ's birth,

bring joy to our hearts this day and always.

May the God of love, who gave his only Son to be born for us,

fill our lives with love and peace.

May Emmanuel, God with us, be with us in all of our celebrations,

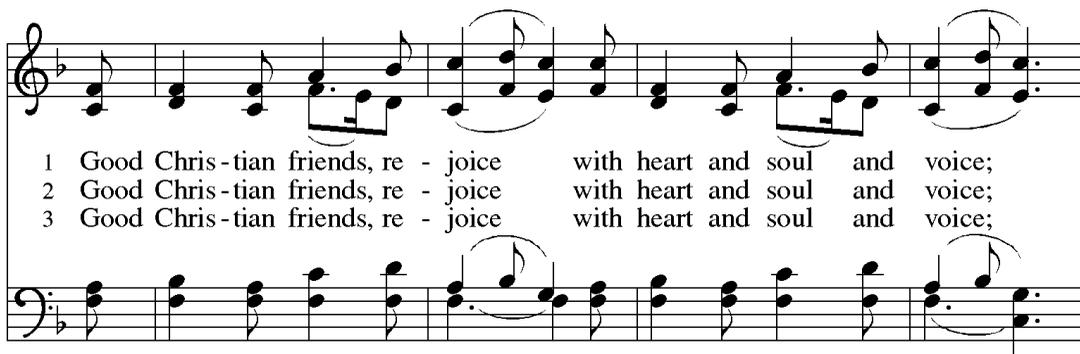
until he brings us into his eternal kingdom.

And may almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and
forever.

Amen

*CLOSING HYMN

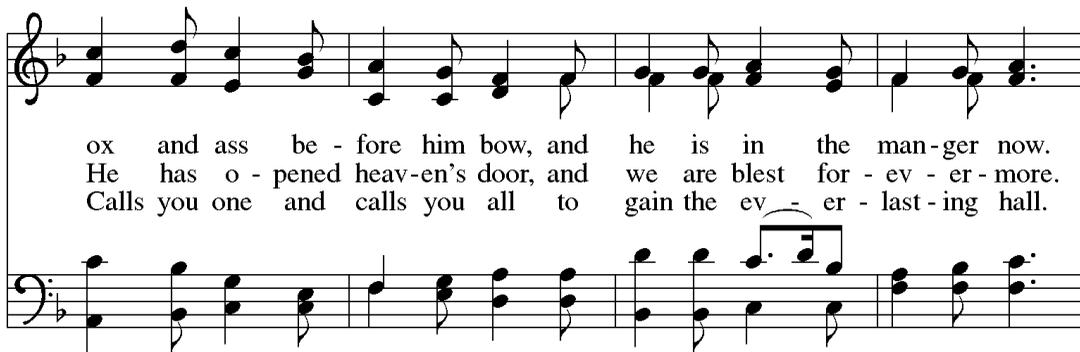
“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795–1856

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“In Dulci Jubilo” – arr. G. Martin

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Preaching & Presiding: Deacon Steve Basselman
 Worship Leader: Zach Basselman
 Acolyte: Emma Martenies
 Communion Assistant: JoAnn Liechty

Christmas Poinsettia Donations

Clare Badenhop in memory of husband, Elden Badenhop

Pat Basselman in memory of husband, Rudy and sister, Carolyn

Jeff & Jo Ann Benecke in memory of Dexter & Janis Benecke, Melissa Benecke, Joe & Juanita Goubeaux

Linda & Bruce Bernath in memory of their parents: Russel & Roberta Opdycke, "Pup" Bernath and "Rosie" Carpenter

Michelle Collins in honor of Bridget Lovejoy and Jess Short

Jeff & Kristin Forward in memory of Til & Melba Schnitkey and Jason Forward

Steve & Bonnie Meyer in memory of Bob & Buzzy Meyer

Steve & Bonnie Meyer in memory of Wayne & Mabel Wyse

Dick & Melanie Nagel in memory of Karl & Mildred Nagel and Fred & Virginia Witte

Linda Parnell & David McDonel in memory of Dawn Cramer & Ada Thrasher and in honor of their children, grandchildren and great-grand children

Bill & Diane Phelps in memory of William & Olga Summers and Edgar & Katherine Phelps

Greg & Nona Rupp in memory of Steve Liechty and Suellen Rupp and their parents and in honor of their children & grandchildren

Keith & Cristie Sevey in memory of Elden Badenhop and in honor of all of their grandchildren, Owen, Benji, Nolan, Simon and Molly

Marilyn Sholl in honor of Nona & Greg Rupp, Louise Belden, & Brenda Shibler

Tim & Deb Smith in memory of Fred & Ginnie Witte, Harold & Marilyn Smith, Max Smith, Sr. and in honor of Ken & Michelle Collins & Family, Paul & Toni Thiel & Family and Tyson & Katie Smith & Family

Don Spohler in memory of Anna & Arthur Spohler, Esther & Paul Greene and Sandie Spohler

Scott & Sheryl Spohler in memory of Sandie Spohler, Anna & Arthur Spohler and Paul & Esther Greene and in honor of Don Spohler

Jim & Jane Stevens in memory of their parents, Herb & Mildred Stevens and Rodney & Claudine Arnold

Tim & Chris Ziegler in memory of Harriette & Jr. Eicher, Willie & Jim Ziegler & Alexa Pinter and in honor of their children & grandchildren

