

*Christmas Eve Services*  
*Cross of Christ Lutheran Church*



*Emmanuel*  
*God With Us*

## GATHERING

*The pastor and assisting minister will read the normal print.*

*The assembly will respond with the bold print.*

### PRELUDE

UW Brass Quintet

### WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

#### Once in Royal David's City

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's\_ ci - ty stood a low - ly cat - tle\_ shed,  
2. He came down to earth from hea - ven who is God and Lord of\_ all,  
3. And our eyes at last\_ shall\_ see him, through his own re - deem - ing\_ love;  
4. Not in that poor low - ly\_ sta - ble, with the ox - en stan - ding\_ by,

where a mo - ther laid\_ her\_ ba - by in a man - ger for\_ his\_ bed:  
and his shel - ter was\_ a\_ sta - ble, and his cra - dle was\_ a\_ stall;  
for that child so dear\_ and\_ gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
we shall see him; but\_ in\_ hea - ven, set at God's right hand on\_ high;

Ma - ry was that mo - ther mild,\_ Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle\_ child\_  
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior\_ ho - ly.  
and he leads his chil - dren on\_ to the place where he\_ is\_ gone\_  
there his chil - dren ga - ther round, bright like stars, with glo - ry\_ crowned.

## GREETING

The grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ,  
word made flesh, born of Mary,  
be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## CHRISTMAS LITANY

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

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

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 the people.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### 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, e - cho - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on ben - ded knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king

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

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The treble staff has a melody line with lyrics underneath: 'glo - - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o.' The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

**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.**

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**WORD**

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**LESSON**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

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. 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S SONG**

### **Go Tell It on the Mountain**

Proclaim

Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and every-where;  
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, through-out the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and every-where;  
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Kathleen Armstrong

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O come ye, O  
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye  
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py mor - ning; Je - sus, to

come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God in the high - est:  
thee be glo - ry giv'n! Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

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. 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.” 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!” 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.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 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.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her king;  
2. Joy to the earth, the Sa - vior reigns! Let all their songs em - ploy,  
3. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the na - tions prove

let ev' - ry heart pre - pare him room and heav'n and na - ture sing,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains re - peat the soun ding joy,  
the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness and won - ders of his love,

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
re - peat the soun ding joy, re - peat, re - peat the soun - ding joy.  
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing,

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### Prayer Response:

Hear us O God,

**Your mercy is great.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

At Jesus' birth the angels sang a song of peace and goodwill.  
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

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## MEAL

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### OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

Soli Dei

A Maiden Most Gentle

text: Andrew Carter, music: French tune, arr. Andrew Carter

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing  
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

How blest is the birth of her heavenly child  
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call  
The Lord of creation and Saviour of all  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare  
And marveled in awe at the babe in her care  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray  
Sing praise to the Savior sing end-lessly  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.  
Ave, Ave, Ave, Ave Maria

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Good and loving God,  
We rejoice in the birth of Jesus,  
who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.  
As you have blessed us with your gifts,  
let them be a blessing for others,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*All are welcome at Jesus' table. He gives of himself in the bread and wine, and invites us to receive it for the forgiveness of sin. We invite you to share in your homes the sacrament of the Lord's table.*

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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."

## **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.**

## **WORDS OF DISTRIBUTION**

Give to one another the bread, "Body of Christ given for you."

Give to one another the wine, "Blood of Christ shed for you."

## Communion Hymn

There Blooms a Rose in Bethlehem

Proclaim  
Neil DeGraide

There blooms a rose in Bethlehem  
From tender stem hath sprung  
Of Jesse's line this flower grows  
As men of old have sung  
Isaiah told us long ago  
About this rose we'd find  
In virgin arms we shall behold  
The Savior of mankind

The glories of the heavens  
Surrounded shepherds bright  
The angels sang a sign was shown  
The Christ was born that night  
What mystery they came upon  
The sign the heralds laud  
In manger slept the Holy One  
In flesh the Son of God

This flow'r in bloom a scent so sweet  
That greets us in the air  
It has dispelled with hopefulness  
The sting of death's despair  
Foretold this rose was born to die  
But would not see decay  
So those who place their faith in Him  
Shall blossom from the grave

So those who place their faith in Him  
Shall blossom from the grave

CCLI Song # 7031878

Neil DeGraide

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## BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless you and keep you always in God's grace.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER

Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

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## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

### HYMN

#### Silent Night

Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright round yon  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; glo - ries  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light ra - diant

vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,  
stream\_ from hea - ven a - far, heav'n - ly hosts\_ sing, al - le - lu - ia!  
beams\_ from your ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

sleep in hea - ven - ly peace, — sleep\_ in hea - ven - ly peace.  
Christ, the Sa - vior, is born! — Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!  
Je - sus, Lord, at your birth, — Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

## **Benediction**

May Christ, born into time to bring endless peace,  
guide your days and years in righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.

**Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Filled with the joy of Christ's birth,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

UW Brass Quintet

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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### **Worship Volunteers**

Assistant Ministers

Dietz Family

Audio & Visual Ministers

Scott Elvington &

Rick Bobbitt

### **Pastors and Staff**

Lead Pastor

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Pastor of Congregational Ministries

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