

Prelude
Welcome & Announcements
Invocation

Emily Larson

Hymn *“O Holy Night”* Praise #183

Christmas Litany

P: Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

C: This new covenant was sealed at our Savior’s birth.

P: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,

C: And a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

P: As Isaiah said long ago,

C: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

P: And his name shall be called,

C: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

P: And the Lord said, “Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

C: I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.”

P: This one whom the prophets foretold is the Messiah,

C: The King of kings and the Lord of lords. It is he whom we worship; it is he whom we adore.

Hymn *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* Praise #192

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Trusting in Jesus Christ, who became man to take away our sin and bring light to this broken world, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. Silence for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we are captive to sin and in need of a Savior. To you, we confess our sins— those known to us that burden our hearts and those unknown but seen by you. Forgive us and free us from the slavery of sin. Liberate us from the bondage of guilt, and work in us that which is pleasing in your sight.

P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

C: Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children’s Message

Choir

Offering

Hymn *“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”* Praise #181

First Reading Isaiah 7:10-14

Second Reading 1 John 4:7-16

Gospel Luke 2:1-21

Sermon Pastor Lexy Carson

Hymn *“Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We”* Concordia #366

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the Church

Words of Institution / Lord’s Prayer / Distribution

Benediction & Doxology

C: Praise God who came in infant low. To bear our flesh and grace bestow. Born in a lowly manger stall. A child who shall redeem us all.

Closing Hymn *“Silent Night”* Praise #184

P: Go in peace. Serve the newborn Messiah. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Isaiah 7:10-14

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ “Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test.”

¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

1 John 4:7-16

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

¹³ This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

Luke 2:1-21

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

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4 So 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. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and 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.

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

13 Suddenly 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.

21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

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