
A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

+ CHRISTMAS EVE + 24 DECEMBER 2020 +



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgslcms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive”

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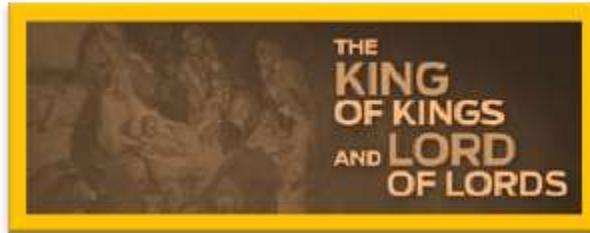
*Welcome to our traditional Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols!
We are delighted that you are joining us for this joyous celebration of our Lord's birth.
We hope that you will come back again soon to hear His Word of life and forgiveness.*

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to, when to stand, when to kneel, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along. Your mask is required to be worn at all times.*

Please join us for the following services of our Lord:

Christmas Day Festival Service – tomorrow at 10 am (a different service from tonight)

Every Sunday at 10 am



The Light of Christ Shines Forth in the Darkness



Heaven and earth rejoice on this night because the glory of the Triune God is manifested in the human birth of “our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13). In Him, the Father’s grace, mercy and peace rest upon the world. The silence of death is broken by this “good news of great joy that will be for all the people” (Luke 2:10). And all we who have gone astray like lost and wandering sheep, who have “walked in the darkness” of doubt and fear and sinful unbelief, behold “a great light” in the nativity of Christ (Is. 9:2). In Him “the grace of God has appeared” (Titus 2:11). For this Child of Mary who is born for us, this dear Son of God who is given to us, will bear the burden of our sin and death in His own body on the cross. He thereby establishes a government of peace, “with justice and with righteousness,” which shall have no end; not by any work of man, but “the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this” (Is. 9:7).

Cover art: *The Adoration of the Shepherds (1886-1894)* – James J Tissot

Pre-Service Organ Recital

Mr. Jay Rogers, *Music Director*

I. Bach à la Française

Pièce d'Orgue BWV 572

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Très vite

Gravement

Lentement

The **Pièce d'Orgue** is unique among Bach's Organ works. It was probably written around 1710. The **Tres vite** is a fanfare in single notes featuring echo effects. The **Gravement** is a massive 5-part movement resembling the French *grand jeu* movements found in the works of Couperin, Marchand, and others. The **Lentement** features a descending pedal line under rapid triplets, somewhat foreshadowing the French toccatas of the late 19th Century.

II. Four Carol Settings

Away in a Manger

David Lasky (b.1957)

David Lasky is Music Director/Organist at St. Cecelia's Roman Catholic Church in Leominster, Massachusetts. His setting uses both common tunes for this carol, "Away in a Manger," and "Cradle Song", in a lush romantic setting.

Susani

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

Robert J. Powell is Organist/Choirmaster at Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville, South Carolina. He has published many choral and organ works in his long career. "Susani" is a German carol, with the words "From Heaven High, O Angels, Come". The setting is cheerful and dance-like in character.

Forest Green

Marilyn Biery (b. 1959)

Marilyn Biery is Music Director/Organist at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, Detroit. "Forest Green" is an English tune which has been used for many texts. In England, it is the common tune for "O Little Town of Bethlehem". It is found in LSB at hymn #362, with the text "O Sing of Christ." (Opposite "O Little Town of Bethlehem" #361). The setting features mysterious chords, with the melody in the pedal on a 4' stop.

Sussex Carol

Karl Osterland (b. 1956)

Karl Osterland is at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, Detroit. "Sussex Carol" is a cheerful tune sung to "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing". This features dialogue between the organ stops of Great Gedeckt 8' and the Choir Cromorne 8'.

III. Young Bach Learns from an Old Master

Two settings of "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

1. *Johann Pachelbel (1653-1709)*

2. *J. S. Bach BWV 739*

Pachelbel was one of the most prominent Lutheran musicians in the era just prior to Bach. Bach's older brother, Johann Christoph, was a pupil of Pachelbel and undoubtedly introduced Bach to this music while young Sebastian lived with him. The authenticity of BWV 739 has been questioned, but an autograph in Bach's hand exists. It may be the earliest known organ work to come down to us, possibly written as early as 1699. The similarities between the settings indicate that Bach had studied the Pachelbel piece, probably with Christoph.



A SERVICE of LESSONS and CAROLS

Rise and face the Cross for the procession

Processional Hymn

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

st. 1: sung by Cantors

sts. 2-4: Congregation



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



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



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

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Verse

Matthew 1:21

P Alleluia. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. **C** Alleluia.

Welcome and Bidding Prayer

There will be time for silent prayers after each bid.

P I welcome you, on behalf of The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. We have come together as the family of God, in our Father's presence, to celebrate the great festival of Christmas. In this service which has become a Christmas Eve tradition here at The Good Shepherd, we hear and receive the good news of the birth of Christ and we offer to God our thanksgiving in the joyful singing of carols and in prayer.

In Christian freedom, you may kneel, stand, or sit, as you are able.

Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ.

Let us pray all the ministers of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the people of God.

Let us pray for our catechumens, that our Lord God would open their hearts and the door of His mercy that, having received the remission of all their sins by the washing of regeneration, they may be mindful of their Baptism and evermore be found in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Let us pray our Lord God that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, grant health to the sick and a safe journey to all who travel.

Let us pray for all who are outside the Church, that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church.

Let us pray for peace, that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word and walk before Him as is fitting for Christians.

Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are both needful for them and profitable for their salvation.

Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down His blessing upon them and graciously dispose our hearts to enjoy them according to His own good will.

Finally, let us pray for all those things which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

Lord's Prayer

All: **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.**



Sit

Reading

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace
 there will be no end,
 on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
 to establish it and to uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time forth and forevermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Hymn Response

359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

Reading

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and



said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of

Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Hymn Response

356 [The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came](#)



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
 In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high-ly fa-vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
Most high-ly fa-vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
Most high-ly fa-vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
“Most high-ly fa-vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!

Tune and text: Public domain

Reading

Luke 2:1–20

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned,

glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn Response

377 On Christmas Night All Christians Sing



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris - tians sing To hear the news the
2 Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Re - deem - er
3 When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then life and health come
4 All out of dark-ness we have light, Which made the an - gels



an - gels bring, On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing To
made us glad, Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since
in its place, When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then
sing this night, All out of dark - ness we have light, Which



hear the news the an - gels bring, News of great joy, news of great
our Re - deem - er made us glad, When from our sin He set us
life and health come in its place; An - gels and men with joy may
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace to



mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
free, All for to gain our lib - er - ty?
sing, All for to see the new - born King.
men Now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

Tune and text: Public domain

Reading

John 1:1-4

¹In 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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men.



Hymn Response

384 Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 Δ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

Votum

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

Offering will be collected in the Narthex after service.

During the singing of "O Little Town of Bethlehem" on the facing page, the ushers will go to the chancel and light their candles from the pastor's candle.

They will then light members of the congregation's candles.

Please tip your unlighted wick to the flame to prevent wax from spilling. Once your candle has been lit, remain standing.



Saint Joseph Seeks a Lodging in Bethlehem , 1886-1894 - James Tissot

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep And dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by.
 While mor - tals sleep, The an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts To hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heav'n.
 Cast out our sin And en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, But in this world of sin
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad ti - dings tell;

The hopes and fears Of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing To God the King And peace to all the earth.
 Where meek souls will Re - ceive him still, The dear Christ en - ters in.
 Oh, come to us, A - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Prayer

P O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Hymn

363 Silent Night, Holy 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 Thy 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 Thy
peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Tune and text: Public domain

Please now extinguish your candle.

The Prayers

P Mercifully hear, O Lord, the prayers of Your people, that, as we rejoice in the birth and first advent of Your Only-begotten Son, so when He comes a second time in majesty, we may receive the reward of eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Glory to God in the Highest!**

P O God, who gladdens us with the yearly remembrance of our redemption, grant that we who now joyfully receive Your Only-begotten Son as our Redeemer may also behold Him without fear when He comes as our Savior and Judge, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Glory to God in the Highest!**

P Most merciful God, who has given Your eternal Word to be made incarnate of the pure Virgin, grant to Your people grace to put away fleshly desires that so we may be ready for Your visitation; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen. Glory to God in the Highest!**

The Blessing

P He who by His incarnation gathered into one all earthly things and heavenly things, fill you with His peace and light.

The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, be and abide with you, this night and always.

C **Amen!**

Sit
Hymn

387 [Joy to the World](#)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

P: Glory to God in the highest!

C: And peace to his people on earth!

As the postlude is being played, you will be invited row by row to exit via the center aisle. Due to the pandemic, please do not congregate in the Narthex, and wait until outside to hold conversations.

POSTLUDE

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Wilbur Held contributed greatly to the music of the church during his long career. He taught for many years at Ohio State University. After retirement, he moved to Claremont, CA, where he spent the rest of his life, continuing to write and play almost to the end of his life, a few months short of his 101st birthday.

Acknowledgments

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US English: **The Peace of the LORD!**

Merry Christmas!

Swahili: ***Amani ya Bwana!***

Heri la Krismasi!

Finnish: ***Herran rauha!***

Iloista joulua!

