

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

+CHRISTMAS EVE + 24 DECEMBER 2023+



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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- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
 - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
 - ❖ Mr. Leon Tarr, Congregational Chairman
 - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

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

*The entire service, including the rubrics of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and
what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.
The Service of Lessons and Carols begins on page 5.*

**We welcome you to join us tomorrow morning for worship at 10am for the
Christmas Festival!**





Pre-Service Organ Recital

Mr. Jay Rogers, Music Director



I. *Prelude and Fugue in C Major BWV 531*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

BWV 531 is an early work, written when Bach was very much under the influence of Buxtehude. It projects a mood of exuberance, beginning with the opening pedal solo and continuing through the fanfare-like Prelude. The Fugue is very energetic, with a steady sixteenth note pattern and octave leaps. A Prelude and Fugue has no seasonal connotation, but the joy of Christmas is reflected in the writing.

II. *“Adeste Fideles” in an Organ Prelude*

Charles Ives (1874-1954)

Ives was one of America's most unusual composers. He was very fond of dissonance, and often wrote in two keys at the same time. (Bitonality) He spent his career as an insurance executive and stopped composing after about 1930.

“Adeste Fideles” was written in 1897. It opens with a sustained B-flat minor chord in the upper register, played on a 4-foot stop, which sounds an octave higher than written. The composer says, “these high chords should be like distant sounds from a Sabbath horizon.” The left hand intones a melody which is an inversion of the original, still in B-flat minor. Eventually the melody enters, in F Major, while the countermelody continues in B-flat minor. Needless to say, some interesting dissonances are produced. Finally, the opening chords return, marked pianissimo, and the piece resolves in F Major.

III. *A Stable Lamp is Lighted*

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

“A Stable Lamp is Lighted” was part of a group of booklets published in the 1970s by the Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship under the title “Contemporary Worship.” (DS settings one and two from LSB are based on this series.)

The tune was written by Paulette Tollefson (b. 1950). It was included in LBW, but is not found in LW, LSB, or ELW. Despite its apparent inability to achieve popularity, it's an attractive melody, and Wilbur Held has provided an interesting setting.

IV. *Five Original Noels*

Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)

Tournemire was among a group of prominent French organists active around the turn of the Twentieth Century. He was especially skilled at improvisation. Many of his

improvisations were recorded and transcribed for publication by others. Some of the recordings are preserved, although the sound leaves a great deal to be desired.

“Five Original Noels,” however, is an actual written work. It was originally for the harmonium, (reed organ) which was popular in France at this time. The French version was somewhat more sophisticated and capable than the typical American version of the period. The pieces are short and hark back to the Noels of the Eighteenth Century. This edition was edited by Michael Burkhardt, and he provides organ registrations that imitate the harmonium as closely as possible.

V. ***In a Lowly Manger Born***

David Sims (b. 1983)

David Sims is a young man who serves as an Editor with Augsburg Fortress. The Hymn, written by two Japanese writers, is not, strictly speaking, a Christmas song, although the text has references to Jesus’ birth, among other things. LBW puts it under the rubric of “society.” David Sims settling is spirited and dance-like.

David also wrote the introduction and last verse setting of “Joy to the World” used tonight. In the introduction, he borrows a snippet from Vierne’s First Symphony.

VI. ***The First Noel***

Charles Ore (b. 1936)

Charles Ore is Professor Emeritus at Concordia University Seward. He has written many choral and organ works. His music often features rhythmic variations of the original melody. Here he begins with a haunting melody played on the Hohlflöte 8’. He then brings on flutes at 8’ and 2’, providing a hollow sound. Eventually he brings in the melody in the pedal on the 4’ Schalmey. With the pedal at 4’ pitch and the manuals mostly written in the upper middle registers, the piece has a light, floating sound, possibly representing the flight of the angels.

Although “The First Noel” is one of the most beloved of English carols, it does not appear in any LCMS hymnal, for reasons best known to the editors. Its origins are somewhat obscure. It is only identified in sources as English Carol, 17th Century.

VII. ***Let All Together Praise Our God***

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

It was common practice in 18th Century Lutheran Worship for the organist to play verses of the hymns, alternating with the congregation singing. Many of Walther’s chorale settings were intended for this purpose. He would set a number of verses of the hymn, not necessarily intending them to be performed at once.

Here he sets 8 verses, which corresponds to the number found in TLH. (LSB 389 contains 7 verses.) Text and tune were written by Nicklaus Herman (ca. 1500-1561) sometime between 1550 and 1555, making this one of our early Lutheran Hymns.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Rise and face the Cross for the procession.

Processional Hymn

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful



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!

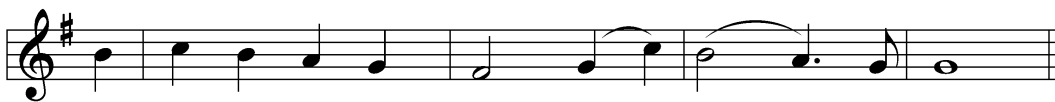


Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

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: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.
Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786
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

LSB 241

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **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.

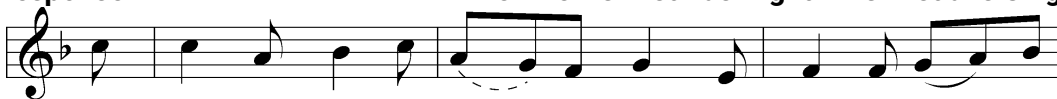
⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of 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

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."

Text and tune: English
Text and tune: Public domain



Birth of Jesus Foretold

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!

Text: para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
 Text and tune: Basque, c. 18th cent

Reading

Luke 2:1–20

The Birth of Jesus Christ

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.

The Shepherds and the Angels

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

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
 Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47
 Text and tune: Public domain



Reading

John 1:1-4

The Word Became Flesh

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

368 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 in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.

Text and tune: French

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Offerings will be collected after service in the back of the church.

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.

Hymn

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem



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 tid - ings 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.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93

Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

Text and tune: Public domain

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

Rejoice

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.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85

Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863

Text and tune: Public domain

You may now extinguish your candles.

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!

Hymn to Depart

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: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude

In Dulci Jubilo BWV 729

J.S. Bach

Another common practice in Lutheran worship in the Eighteenth Century was for the organist to improvise between the LINES of the hymn, which made for some very long chorales. (In one of his early positions, Bach was criticized for overdoing it!) BWV 729 is a written out version of such a chorale, with elaborate figurations between the lines. This majestic setting is frequently used as the postlude for the Service of Lessons and Carols in Cambridge, England.

Acknowledgments

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