

---

**CHRIST & UNIVERSITY HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**Joint Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**  
**with University Hills Lutheran Church**  
**December 24, 2021**  
**7:00 PM**

---

*A Service of Lessons and Carols*

**PRESERVICE MUSIC/FLUTE & PIANO DUETS** "Angels We Have Heard on High"  
"What Child is This"  
**PRESERVICE MUSIC/HANDBELLS** "Angel Tidings"

[S] Means please stand; [P] Means please be seated

**[S] INVOCATION & OPENING PRAYERS**

**[P]** *In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**[C]** Amen.

**[P]** *Beloved in Christ, as we gather here tonight let it be our desire to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and in our hearts and minds go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, and behold the Babe lying in a manger, our Redeemer and our King.*

*Let us hear tonight in Holy Scripture of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience to the glorious redemption wrought for us by this Holy Child; and let us once again tell out the story of His birth with our carols of praise.*

*But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within our nation, across the world, and in the Church.*

*Let us also at this time remember the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and all who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; and all who do not know the Lord Jesus.*

*And let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose eternal hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we forevermore are one.*

(A moment of silence)

**[P]** *For all this, let us pray to the Lord.*

**[C]** Lord, have mercy.

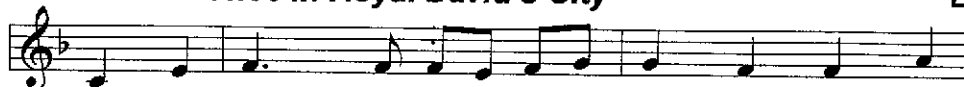
**LORD'S PRAYER**

**[P]** *O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

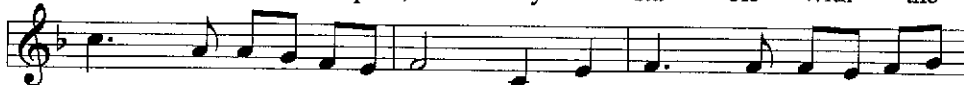
**[C]** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN *Once in Royal David's City***

LSB 376



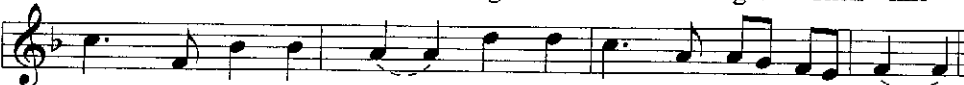
1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is  
 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His  
 5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a  
 own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and  
 ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y  
 sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the  
 gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He  
 heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like

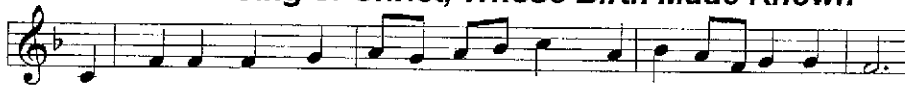


was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
 poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
 leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.  
 stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

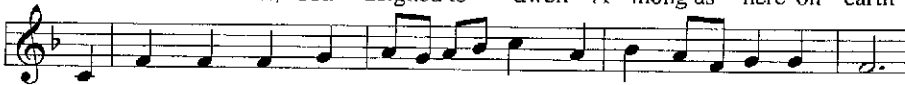
Text and tune: Public domain

**FIRST CHRISTMAS READING*****Genesis 3:8-19*****HYMN*****O Sing of Christ, Whose Birth Made Known***

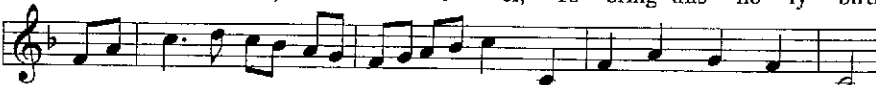
LSB 362



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind - ness of the Lord,  
 2 What Ad - am lost, none could re - claim, And Par - a - dise was barred  
 4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.  
 Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.  
 As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace  
 For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;  
 Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.  
 He came to us as life and light And our re - demp-tion won.  
 That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: © 1986 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission; LSB Hymn License no. 110000664; Tune: Public domain

**SECOND CHRISTMAS READING**

**Isaiah 9:1-7**

**HYMN**

***It Came upon the Midnight Clear***

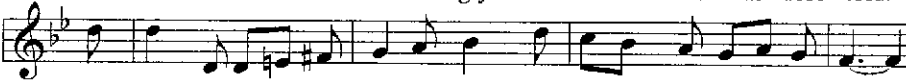
**LSB 366**



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,  
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un - furled,  
 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
 And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.  
 When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
 A - bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
 His word of peace shall to the earth God's an - cient prom - ise bring,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.  
 And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

Text and tune: Public domain

**THIRD CHRISTMAS READING**

**Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9**

**HYMN**

***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***

**LSB 359**



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  
 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  
 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  
 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.  
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

## FOURTH CHRISTMAS READING

Luke 1:26-38

### HYMN

### *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

LSB 356

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;

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.

"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."

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

## FIFTH CHRISTMAS READING

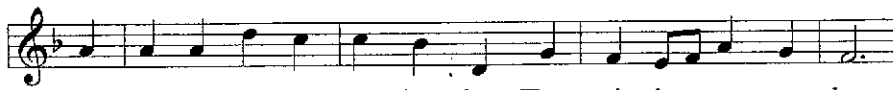
Luke 2:1-7

### HYMN

### *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

LSB 361

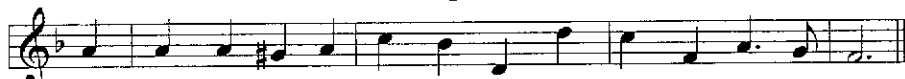
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



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 and tune: Public domain

**DUET SELECTION**     *O Holy Night*

by Adolphe Adam

Steve Shellenberger, Beth Vanderhyde

**SIXTH CHRISTMAS READING**

*Luke 2:8-20*

**HOMILY**

*Pastor Roger Wohletz*

**HYMN**

*God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen let nothing you dismay  
 Remember, Christ, our Savior was born on Christmas day  
 To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray  
 O tidings of comfort and joy, (repeat)

From God our Heavenly Father a blessed Angel came;  
 And unto certain Shepherds brought tidings of the same:  
 How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy, (repeat)

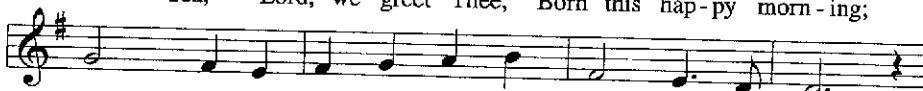
Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,  
 And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;  
 This holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy, (repeat)

**SEVENTH CHRISTMAS READING**

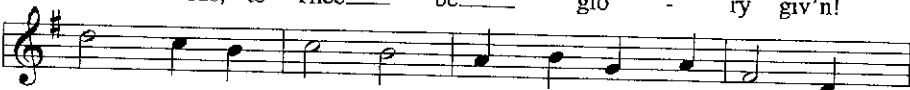
*John 1:1-14*



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;

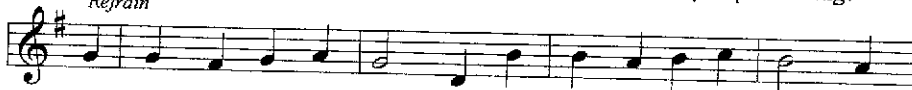


come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to Thee be - glo - ry giv'n!

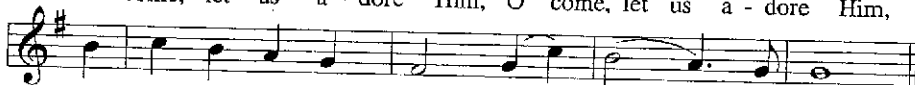


Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
 Glo - ry to God In the high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

*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

## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES / CHORAL SELECTION

*"All on a Starry Night"*

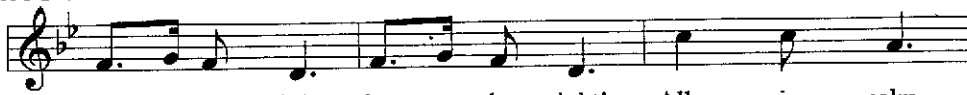
*[Please tip only an UNLIT candle for lighting. When all candles are lit, the service continues...]*

### PRAYERS

- P** Let us pray. O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when he comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever.
- C** Amen.
- P** Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!
- C** Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. *(Luke 2:29-32)*
- P** The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be and abide with you all.
- C** Amen.

# CLOSING HYMN

# Silent 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

## POSTLUDE

## "Joy to the World"

by Wilbur Held

~~~~~  
 This service has been adapted from A Festival of Nine Carols first held on Christmas Eve in 1918 in England. Its origins began as an Order drawn up by E. W. Benson, later the Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the cathedral in Truro on Christmas Eve, 1880. The service in various forms continues to be used around the world on Christmas Eve to this day.

A special thanks to our musicians this evening:  
 Benjamin Vanderhyde on organ  
 Tim Thomack on trumpet  
 Beth Buss on piano  
 Mackenzie Egan on Flute  
 Duet: Steve Shellenberger, Beth Vanderhyde  
 Christ Choristers  
 Christ Handbells



**CHRISTMAS DAY: Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM**  
 With Communion  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE: Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 6 PM**  
 With Communion

