



A Congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are a *Reconciling in Christ*
congregation, affirming the
diversity of God's children



1555 South James Road, Columbus, OH 43227
614.237.1263 + info@redeemerluth.com + www.redeemerluth.com

CHRISTMAS EVE



Erland Sibuea, *Nativity*, Indonesia, 2008

December 24, 2022

7:00 pm

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...

an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- **Within the sanctuary** please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- **Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation**, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- **Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order** are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- **Assistive hearing devices** are available from the ushers.

Please turn off your cell phone or set to airplane mode. This will help maintain our livestream.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude and Lighting the Christ Candle

The First Noel, arr. Joel Raney

Angels We Have Heard on High, arr. John Carter

Piano Duets

Musical Reflection

Tiny Miracle, Pepper Choplin

Senior Choir, Miles Smith drums

Come and see this tiny miracle, come and see this holy Child.
Come and see this tiny miracle, come and see this holy Child.
O come and see this tiny miracle, there's a spiritual presence here.
O come and see this tiny being and know we're seeing the holy Christ Child.

O come and see this tiny miracle, hear the lyrical baby's cry.
It is the sound of new creation, the Incarnation, the holy Christ Child.
We come, bow to worship. We bring gifts of praise
To lay before Him as we adore Him, the Lord.

Here in the town the town of Bethlehem, few will welcome Him on His birthday
Until the angels rouse the shepherds and start forever the celebration.
We come, bow to worship. We bring gifts of praise
To lay before Him as we adore Him the Lord.

O Come and see this tiny miracle, there's a spiritual presence here.
O come and see this tiny being and know we're seeing the holy Christ Child.

Welcome

Please stand in body or spirit

Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The 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
Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Opening Prayer

As once you came in the hush of darkness, O God,
still our hearts now by the wonder of this night.
Make us wise with the wisdom of a child,
that truth might be born afresh in us.
Let our hearts not be busy inns with no room,
but doors opened wide to welcome a Holy Guest,
who is Jesus Christ,
alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading

The Birth of the Messiah is Foretold

Hitoshi Phillips

Isaiah 9:2-6; 11.1-4a - New Revised Standard Version and
Contemporary English Version, inclusivized

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.
For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given;
and the government will be upon his shoulder.
And his name shall be called,
“Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Sovereign, Prince of Peace.”
Like a branch that sprouts from a stump,
someone from David’s family will someday rule.
The Spirit of the Lord will be with him
to give understanding, wisdom, and insight.
This ruler will be powerful,
and will know and honor God.
His greatest joy will be to obey God.
This ruler won’t judge by appearances or listen to rumors.
The poor and the needy will be treated
with fairness and with justice.

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had 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
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light-ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Second Reading:

The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary

Elaine Disbro

Luke 1:26-38 - New Revised Standard Version, inclusivized

Six months [after he visited Mary's kinswoman, Elizabeth, to tell her she would give birth to John the Baptizer,] the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And Gabriel came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, God is with you."

But Mary was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be.

And the angel said to her, "Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over the house of Jacob and Rachel for ever; and of his dominion there will be no end."

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

The angel said to 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; he will be called the Son of God. And now, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."

Then Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of God; let it be with me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.

Carol

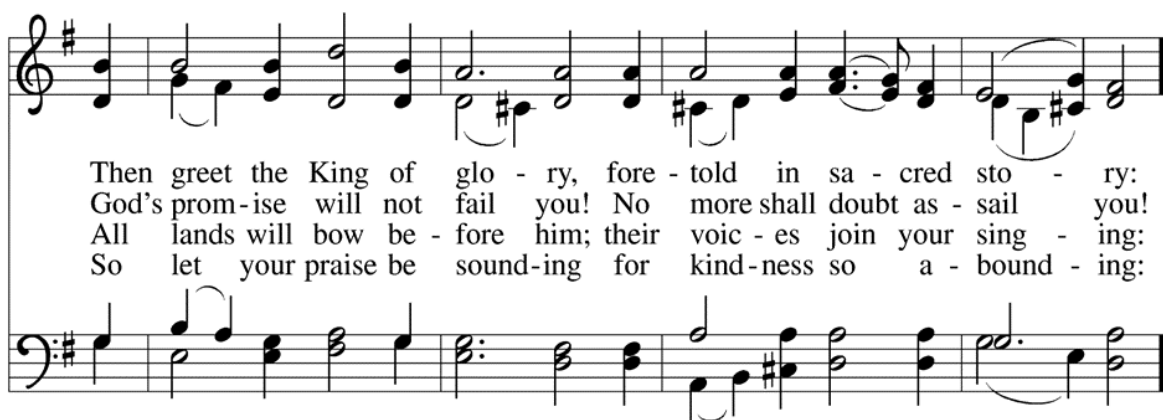
Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Third Reading

The Birth of Jesus

Karen Rider

Luke 2:2-7 – Revised Standard Version

In those days, a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled in their own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his fiancée, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

And she gave birth to a son, her first-born, and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Musical Reflection

Infant Holy, arr. Susan Ullom-Berns

Chime Choir

Carol

What Child is This?



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Luke 2:8-20 – Revised Standard Version

And in the region [of Bethlehem] there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And an angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were filled with fear.

And the angel said, "Fear not. For behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will be for all the people. For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, 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, and on earth, peace to those who do God's will."

When 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 our God has made known to us." And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.

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

Message***FINDING OUR OWN WAY TO LOVE THIS WORLD***

Carol

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions 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

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

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.
 heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their sister Betty Weaver, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Kelley Frank, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, Skye Andree, Kathleen Zwanziger, Donna Voelkel and family, Jeanne Eakin, Karen Kent and Kathy Rapp's mother Mary Watt
The people of St. Phillip Lutheran Church, Newark; Redeemer community member Jeanne Eakin

Time with the Children

Passing the peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

Please be sensitive to those who may need a gentle touch.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Please sit

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

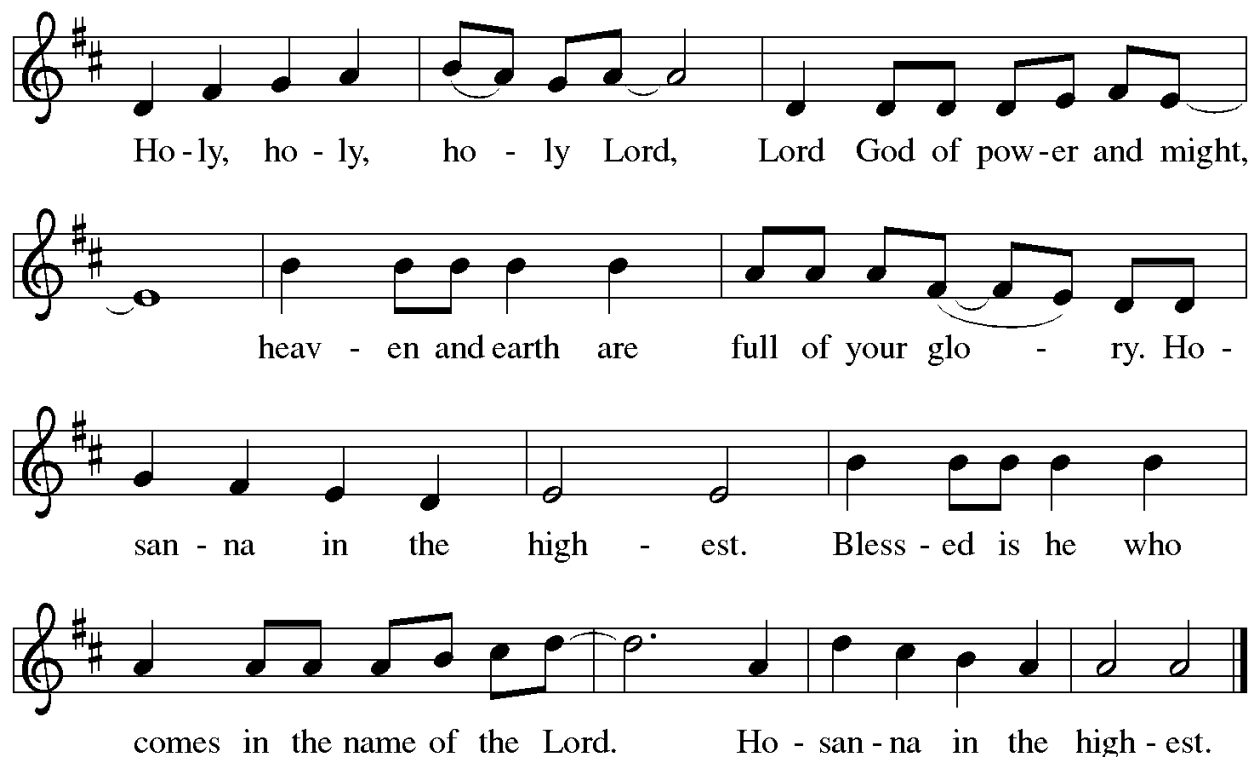
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, Mother and Father of all life, from the beginning of time your Spirit breathed light over darkness. You scattered stars in the heavens and raised up the mountains. You poured out great rivers and blessed the earth with life. You made humans in your image, and loved us in our brokenness and beauty. You promised to stay with us wherever we might go.

In the winter of our longing, you came to the prophet Mary. Your Spirit met her, so together you could help make creation whole. She gave birth to Jesus, your beloved one. As he grew, and heard your call more clearly, he healed wounds. He blessed the lost and lonely with the gift of home.

He showed hungry souls how they could follow him in love without fear.
 His presence in this meal offers the same gifts and power to us.
 Holy One, shine upon us tonight as you shone upon the faithful Mary and
 trusting shepherds. Shine upon us as you have always given light to your
 people in the darkest times and places. Lit by the star over the manger,
 we raise our voices with saints and angels in this heavenly song:



This night we kneel by the manger and sit around the table with Jesus' disciples. This night we see this beautiful baby and we see the adult Jesus whose words, actions, and fearlessness made the powerful fear him enough to seek to silence him. Long after this holy night in Bethlehem, Jesus gathered with his friends in Jerusalem. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

After supper, he took a cup of wine, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is the blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this, do so to remember me."

We ask your Spirit to bless this meal. We gather with you tonight at the manger and in the upper room, in the joy of this night and the betrayal of that night. Come among us! We open ourselves to Jesus' presence in this meal and in each other. Fed by this meal, we will be his body given for the world you love. We promise to make these words come alive in us as we pray:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
So do we.

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat.

Anthem

Masters in this Hall, arr. John Purifoy
Senior Choir, April Smith flute

Masters in this hall, hear ye news today brought from over sea, and ever I
you pray"

REFRAIN Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Nowell sing we clear! Blessed are all folk
on earth, Born to us, God's Son so dear!

God rest ye merry saints of God let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day.
To bring home all we wand'ring sheep when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tiding of comfort and joy.

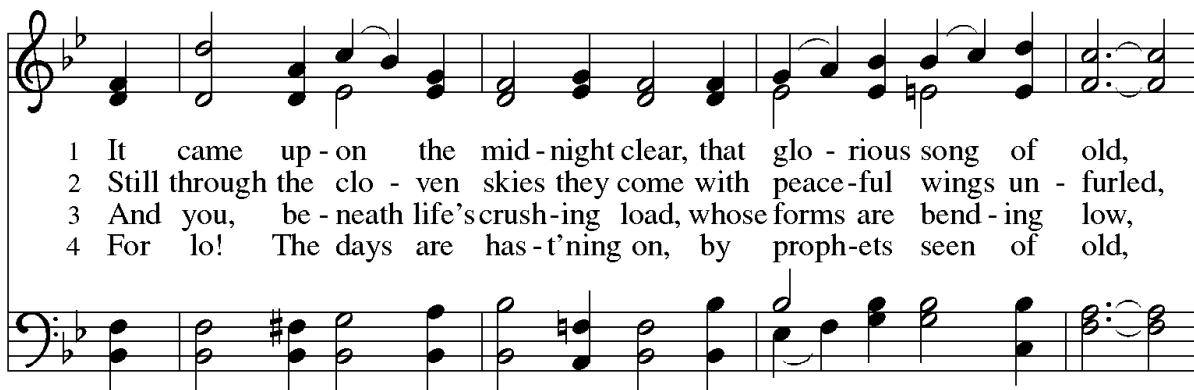
This is Christ the Lord. Masters be ye glad!
Christmas is come in, and no one should be sad: REFRAIN

From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came.
And unto certain shepherds brought tiding of the same.
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy!

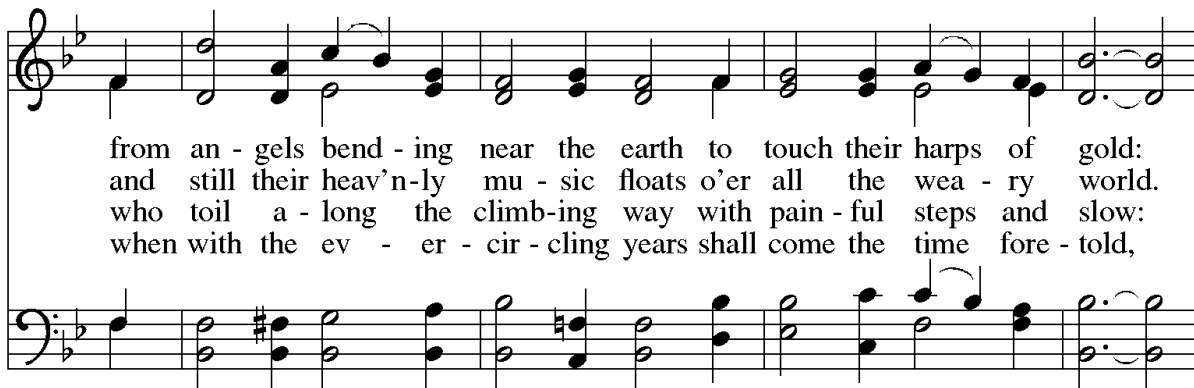
This is Christ the Lord. Masters, be ye glad!

Carol

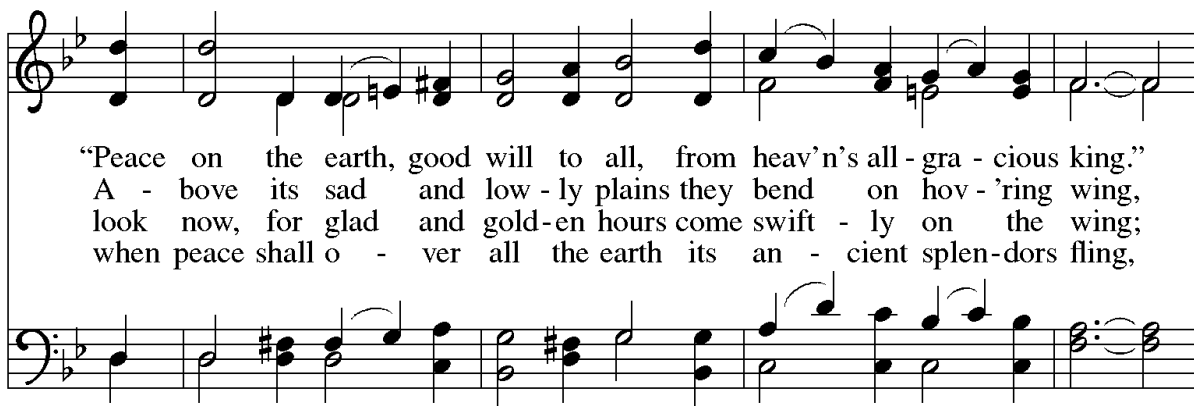
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



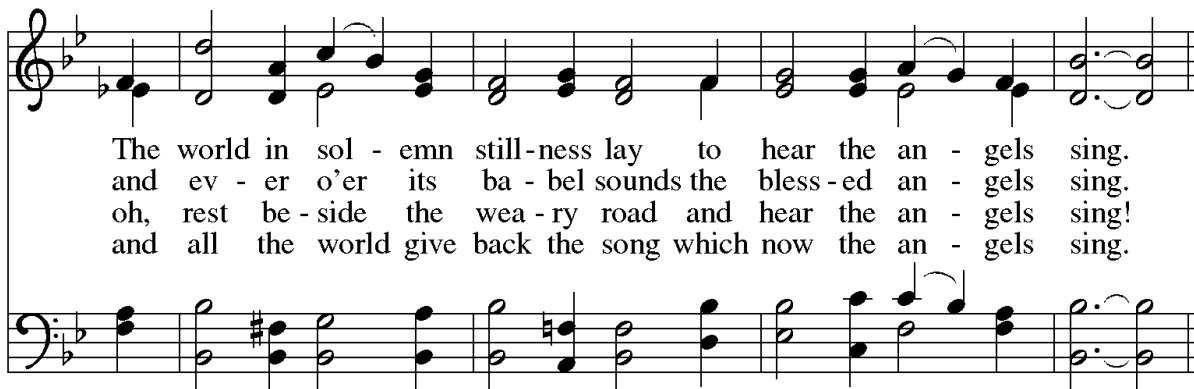
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



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.
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time 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,
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



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.
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876
 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

Musical Reflection

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella, arr. Joel Raney
Piano Duet, Karen Kent and Kathy Rapp

In body or spirit, please stand

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell. Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Amen.

SERVICE OF CANDLELIGHT

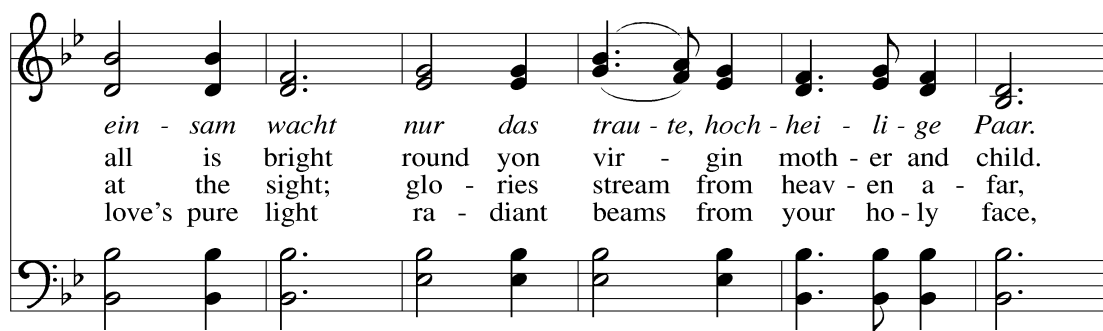
During the introduction of the hymn, the ushers will light their candles and begin to light the candles of the people standing in each pew at the center aisle. Please pass the light down your pew by tilting your unlit candles to the one that is lit.

Carol

Silent Night



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 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,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 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 your ho - ly face,



Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 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 your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Reading

The Word Becomes Flesh

Dave Shull

John 1:1-5, 14 (New Revised Standard Version)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Postlude

Ding! Dong! Merrily on High, arr. Howard Helvey

He Is Born!, arr. John Carter

Piano Duets

Our first act of love is to greet those standing near us and around us.

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The Prayer for the Day this evening is adapted from Ted Loder, *Guerillas of Grace*, LuraMedia, 1984

Pastor Dave will be out-of-town Thursday evening, Dec. 29-Saturday afternoon, Dec. 31.

If you have need of emergency pastoral care during this time, please contact the Rev. Dan Hille from Faith Lutheran Church at 614-832-2461.



Adult Ed Classes

RLC Budget Sunday, January 8

Review of Redeemer's proposed 2023 budget. This is an opportunity to ask questions about the proposal before voting on it at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29.

Personal Finances Sunday, January 15

"How to Take Care of Our Own Financial Well-Being and Reduce Money-Related Stress"
Led by Berwick resident **Helen Wang**, owner of Money Coach Helen, LLC, who has become active in RLC groups.



Birthdays this week:

25 - Doug Eakin

26 - Emily Kent

27 - Susan Darst

27 - Paul Ritter

31 - John Kennedy

31 - Emma Martin



2022

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ARE GIVEN BY:

DONOR

Kevin Bailey
Ann Palmerton and Brad Binau
Bruce Collins
Julie Denniss

Kay Ernsthausen

Julie and John Guerard
Carol Heacock
John Kennedy
Emily Kent and Miles Smith
Margie Frazier and Dave Lippert
Nancy Magargal

Kathy and Tom Mimlitch
Steiner Family
Robin Stokes

Becky & Larry Trover
Linda Williams
Jennifer, Tim, and Colin Young

DONOR

Kay Ernsthausen
Ruth Murray and Donna Voelkel

Dave Shull

Tone Chimes
Laura & Terry Warren

IN MEMORY OF

Ruth Anna & Vyron Bailey
Karen Collins
Karen Collins
Becky Watson, Sunny Hopkins,
Jim Thomas, Karl Denniss
Parents and Grandparents and
Michael
Hilda & Dick Kautz
Stan Heacock
Rev. and Mrs. John L. Kennedy
Loved ones
Parents and brother Don
Family & Friends no longer
with us
John Batts, parents
Loved Ones
Rob Stokes, Geri Stokes,
Hilda Stokes, and Jane Cenci
Our parents
Loved ones
Robert Young and Karen Collins

IN HONOR OF

All the children
Musicians of Redeemer and
Becky Trover
The members and staff of
Redeemer
Karen Kent
Our families

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TONIGHT

Presiding Minister

David Shull, Pastor

Assisting Minister

Karen Rider

Cantor

Connie Criswell

ASL Interpreter

Bryan Neal / Kiara Santiago

Readers

Hitoshi Phillips, Elaine Disbro,

Karen Rider, Katie and Ruby Jacobs

Organist & Senior Choir Director

Kathy Rapp

Pianist & Chime Choir Director

Karen Kent

Usher

Kathleen Zwanziger

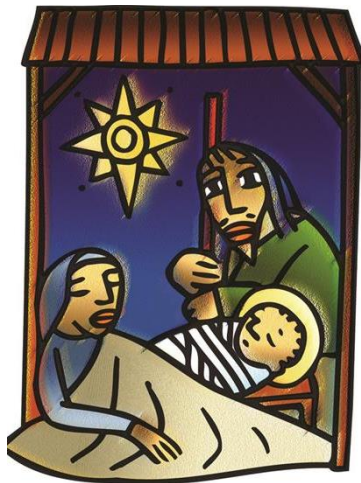
Verger

Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica

Producers

Sue Yehling, Scott Steiner

Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all
Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community



Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship

10 a.m.

In-Person and Livestream

Sunday, January 1

Epiphany Sunday

10 a.m.

In-Person and Livestream

YouTube link for worship services:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7sGE88YtJrLWuGWO0sS-yw>

1555 South James Road, Columbus OH 43227

614.237.1263 + info@RedeemerLuth.com + www.RedeemerLuth.com

Office hours –9am-1pm, M-W and F

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America