AND DWELT AMONG US, We have seen His glo GLORY AS OF THE ONLY SON FROM THE FATHER, Full of grace and truth John 1:14 (ESV)

> King of Kings Lutheran Church Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024

KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH Sunday, December 24, 2024 Christmas Eve <u>Setting 3</u>

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bell Choir Anthem: Away in a Manger (4:00 pm)

Christmas Litany

P: Who are you, strangers, and why have you come?

C: We are the cousins of Mary who have heard the good news. Jesus Christ is born!

P: Christ is born indeed!

C: We are the shepherds who have heard great news from the angels. Jesus Christ is born!

P: Christ is born indeed!

C: We are the people in need of a savior. Jesus Christ is born!

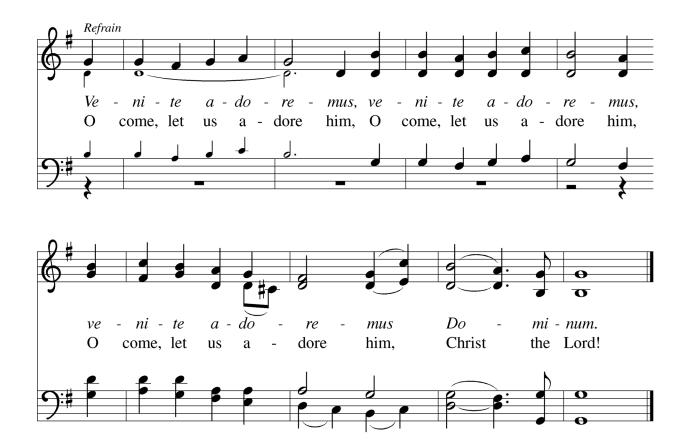
P: Christ is born indeed, and we sing the angels' praise.

All: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

All Advent candles lit.

Opening Hymn: #283 O Come, All Ye Faithful





P: The Lord be with you!

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray together:

C: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

The Angel Visits Joseph: Matthew 1:18-25

R: Our reading is from the book of Matthew, the 1st chapter:

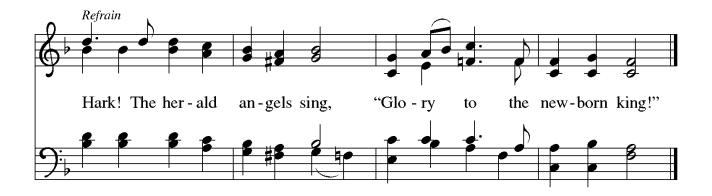
¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Praise #270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing





The Christmas Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

P: The Holy gospel according to Luke the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

P: ¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ!

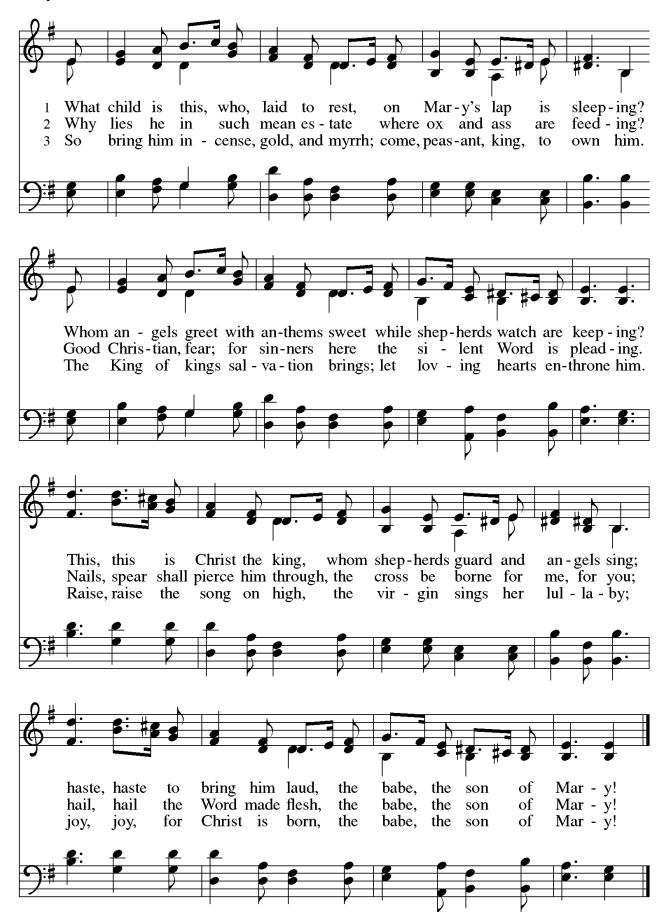
Chancel Choir: Gloria in Excelsis Deo (4:00 pm)

Hymn #279 O Little Town of Bethlehem (7:00 pm)



Sermon: God's Remarkable Gift Pastor Bill Dohle

Hymn #296 What Child Is This



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Christmas Prayers

L: Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

L: Glory to you, God, for the song of the angels, proclaiming to the world Christ's holy birth. Give your church a joyful song to sing, that we bring the good news of peace and salvation to all people. Hear us, O God

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Glory to you, God, for the stars that shine in the depth of the night. Provoke awe in our hearts at the expansive mystery of the cosmos. Open us to find beauty in the clear darkness of night and in the first glimmers of dawn. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Glory to you, God, for the child born to us who establishes a kingdom of justice and righteousness. Break bonds of oppression, bring reconciliation to warring lands, and establish peace from this time onward and forevermore. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Glory to you, God, for Mary's loving care. Lead us to tend to one another in time of need. Share the comfort of your presence with all people tonight who are alone or separated from loved ones due to estrangement, incarceration, or illness (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Glory to you, God, for the faithfulness of the shepherds in their vocation. Grant rest to any who feel exhausted from their work during this season: retail and restaurant workers, church musicians, administrative staff, and clergy, organizers of charitable-giving events, and service workers doing essential tasks. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Glory to you, God, for the multitude of the heavenly host. We rejoice in the zeal of all your saints (*especially*) who have witnessed the appearing of your grace, and who reveal to us your salvation for all. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Sit

Offertory

Musical Interlude

Offering Prayer

A: God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.

C: Amen.

Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

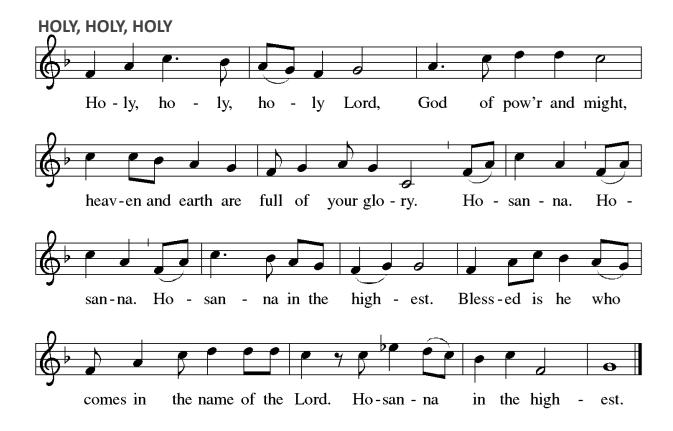
P: It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, and to offer a new song of praise, singing: "Glory to you in the highest heaven and on earth peace among all you favour."

You are the God who made the heavens, the Lord, whose majestic light now shines on those who walked in darkness.

Your grace appears bringing salvation to all; your child is given to us, the firstborn of Mary, and the heavenly host sings his praise.

Though born in exile at the Emperor's command and delivered over to death, he will rise to break the rod of oppression. Though clothed this night in bands of cloth, he will burn the blood stained clothes of war. Though laid this night in a manger, he will be seated on the throne of endless peace to rule with justice and righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Thanksgiving at the Table

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

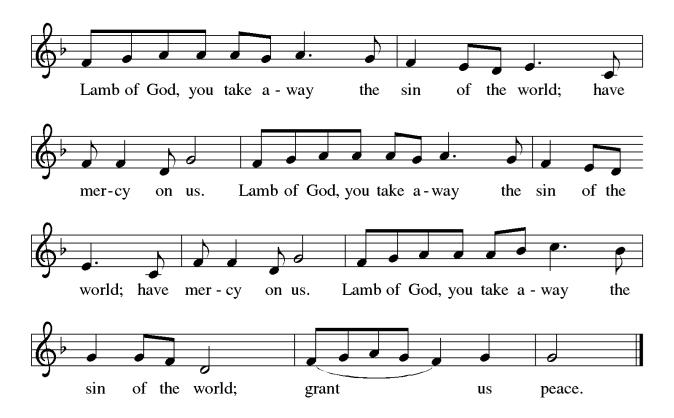
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LAMB OF GOD



Communion Hymn #267 Joy to the World



Prayer after Communion

P: God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Distribution of the Light – Lighting Candles – Ushers will come forward with their candles and then take their candles to the rest of the congregation. Lights dimmed once everyone's candles are lit.

The Incarnation: John 1:1-18

- P: 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
 - ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
 - ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
 - ¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Hymn #281 Silent Night



The Benediction

P: May God bless you with the joy of the shepherds. May you join the ponderings of Mary. May the peace of the Christ child rest upon you, and may you be blessed with the wonder of the incarnation this season and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please blow your candles out.)

P: Go in Peace in the Light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.



The church office will be closed December 25 - January 1

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THANK YOU

to those who helped with worship today:

Presider: Pastor William Dohle Accompanist: Dr. Marilyn Winchester, Carrie Trujillo

Chancel Choir: Dr. Marilyn Winchester

Assisting Minister: 4:00 pm: 7:00 pm:

Reader: 4:00 pm: Vicki Becker 7:00 pm: Kenna Lawson

 Power Point
 4:00 pm:
 7:00 pm:

 Ushers:
 4:00 pm:
 7:00 pm:

 Acolyte:
 4:00 pm:
 7:00 pm:

 Attendance:
 4:00 pm:
 7:00 pm:

 Sound Technicians:
 4:00 pm:
 7:00 pm:

Altar Care: Claudia Stubenrouch, Jill Ramos, Freda Miltner



POINSETTIAS

were given by



Karen Smith Ruth VonMosch Vicki Becker Mary Riekena Don & Glenna Baldwin

Chery Peacock

Paul McCarthy

Cathy & Rob Roberson

Jill Ramos

Roger & Claudia Stubenrouch

in memory of Tom & David in memory of Loved Ones in memory of Richard Kettner

Glory to God Glory to God

in memory of Harold

Glory to God

in memory of Mitzi Roberson

Glory to God

in memory of Claudia's mother, Rosine Atencio

Thank you to all who helped brighten our sanctuary during the Advent / Christmas Season by purchasing a poinsettia.

Those who purchased plants may take them home after the late Christmas Eve worship.

$\mathsf{T}_{\mathsf{hank}\,\mathsf{you}}$

to all who shared their time and talents to help with worship on this special day.

Many volunteers came forward as Assisting Ministers, Readers, Ushers, Attendance, Acolytes, Sound Technicians and Altar Care.