



Ascension Lutheran Church

Christmas Day Worship

Friday, December 25, 2020

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Angels from the Realms of Glory (Michael Burkhardt)

OPENING WORDS

PT: Merry Christmas! God is with us!

PC: God said to Jacob – know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go.

PT: God said to the people – do not fear for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God.

PC: The prophet Isaiah recorded the words of God: Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Emmanuel: God with us.

PT: Of John the Baptist it was said, ‘And you child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.’

PC: And remember, said Jesus, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

PT: Emmanuel! God with us. Merry Christmas!

OPENING HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory (v. 1, 2, 4)

ELW 275

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray...All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING**O Come All Ye Faithful** (arr. Douglas Wagner)**Steve and Carol Spieker****CHILDREN'S TIME****Pastor Chris****MUSICAL OFFERING****Adore** (Kendrick/Chalk)

You stepped down from heaven
Humbly You came
God of all creation, here with us
In a starlit manger Emmanuel
Light of the world here to save

Wise men bring their treasures
Shepherds bow low
Angel voices sing, of peace on earth
What have I to offer to heaven's King
I will bring my life my love my all

Adore, Come let us adore
O come let us adore Him the Lord
Worship Christ the Lord
Let all that is within us adore

Angels sing praises ring
To the newborn King
Peace on earth here with us
Joy awakening, at Your feet we fall

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

P: The Holy Gospel for this day comes from the book of St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

MUSICAL OFFERING**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** (v. 1)**ELW 270**

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 you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



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

GOSPEL READING**Luke 2:8-20**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When 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.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The 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.****MUSICAL OFFERING****Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** (v. 3)**ELW 270**

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

SERMON**Give Me Jesus****Pastor Chris****MUSICAL OFFERING****He Shall Reign Forevermore** (Tomlin/Maher)

In the bleak mid-winter
All creation groans
For a world in darkness
Frozen like a stone
Light is breaking
In a stable for a throne

(And) He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Unto us a Child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore

If I were a wise man, I would travel far
If I were a shepherd, I would do my part
But poor as I am, I will give to Him my heart

Here within a manger lies the One
Who made the starry skies
This baby born for sacrifice
Christ the Messiah
Into our hopes into our fears
The Savior of the world appears
The promise of eternal years
Christ the Messiah

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING**Away in a Manger****Amy James, Flute**
Grace James, Cello**PRAYER**

He Shall Reign Forevermore: Chris Tomlin | Matt Maher © 2015 S. D. G. Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); sixsteps Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Worship Together Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Be Essential Songs (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC); I Am A Pilgrim Songs (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

THE PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened

the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vis - ion of your glo - ry,

that be - holding the God made vis - i - ble,

we may be drawn to love the God whom we can - not see.

And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,

we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

A reminder that when you receive the bread and wine you may say to yourself or others in your home: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

MUSICAL MEDITATION**A Christmas Blessing** (*Philip Stopford*)**Linda Elder****BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.**MUSICAL OFFERING****Joy to the World** (*v. 1, 2, 4*)**ELW 267**

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,

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE**Break Forth Into Joy (from The Christmas Oratorio) J.S. Bach**

FAITH CONNECTION

Join us as we connect as a church in new ways.

Donate Today or Give By Text or Online

- Text 262-214-3681 with the amount to donate
- Online: [tinyurl.com/DonateAscension](https://www.tinyurl.com/DonateAscension)

Coffee: Email Donna Aschenbrenner, wra@wi.rr.com to order coffee, including of the new Makumira Holiday Blend (\$19/bag); the high quality Peaberry coffee; or flavored or regular coffees. Regular/decaf coffee for a 12 oz bag is \$10. Peaberry coffee for a 12 oz. bag is \$15.

COLLECTIONS & COMMUNITY CARE

Children's Coat Collection: Hawthorne Elementary School is one of our newest partners. A large number of the students at the school are low income. The school is in need of new or gently used jackets and boots. The children are 4K through 5th grade. Place your donation in the barrels in the Donation Center.

Food Pantry: Target is offering a way to vote for how they donate money to non-profits. If you are a Target Circle Member and make purchases, you receive votes for local nonprofits. Now through Dec. 31, you can vote for the Food Pantry of Waukesha County whenever you shop at Target. See the Target website for more info.

The Blessing Box is being filled several times a week. We are especially in need of foods to make a meal. Examples: cereal, instant oatmeal, canned pasta, canned fruits and vegetables, cleaning supplies, etc. Place your donations directly in the BB or drop off at church during office hours.

Community Outreach: Please follow Ascension, Ascension Mission Outreach, and Ministerio Latino de Ascensión Waukesha on Facebook. "Like" "Love", Comment or share posts to help promote Ascension's ministries in the community. While we can't do our normal outreach, we can spread the word via electronic media and reach a broad population.

Church Office Hours

The church office will be closed on Thursday and Friday of Christmas week and next week. The church building will be open for donation drop-off next week Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Submit a Prayer

Submit a prayer request online [ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers](https://www.ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers), by email to Tamie@ascensionelca.org, or phone message to the church office. Please pray:

Healing

Edwin Aparicio, covid
Natalie Mustapich, covid
Sandy Sadowski, fractured pelvis
Steve Spieker's brother, Tim, COPD

On our website, [ascensionelca.org](https://www.ascensionelca.org)

- Read the monthly newsletter.
- Watch or re-watch worship and sermons.
- Read blog postings with updated information about church activities.
- Donate online to continue to help us pay the bills and support our ministries. Many of our community and international partners are hurting because of the ongoing pandemic.
- Submit a prayer request <https://www.ascensionelca.org/spiritual-growth/prayers>.

Follow us on Facebook

- Join other Ascension friends on Sunday morning at 8 a.m. to watch worship together, virtually. Read the e-alert and announcements about activities.
- Read inspirational messages from staff.
- Find out what's happening at Ascension.

Ascension
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