

The King of Kings Salvation Brings

A Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2023

Prelude

Welcome to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Opening Hymn "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful"

LSB 379



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. Grace to you, and Peace, from the One who is, and Who was, and Who is to come!
- C** **Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the Firstborn from the Dead, the Ruler of all earthly kings.**

Response "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

LSB 380 sts 1, ref



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



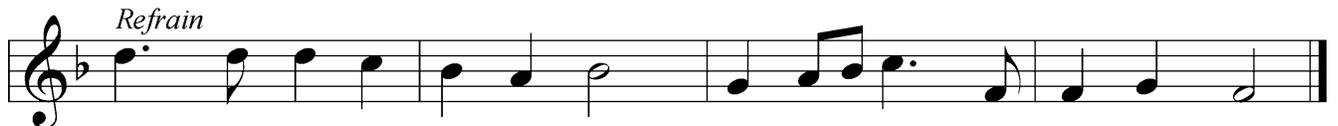
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"



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

- P** To Him be glory forever and ever!
- C** **He made us a kingdom, priests for His Father.**

Response "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

LSB 380 sts. 2,ref



2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,



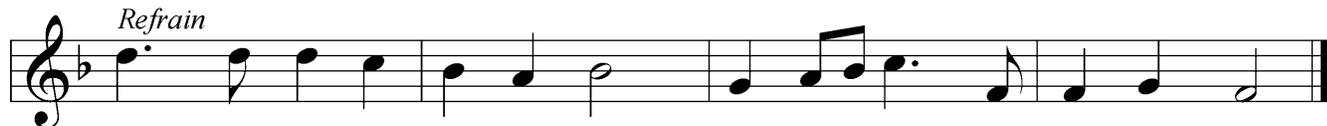
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.



Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!



Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!



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

P Christ loves us, and by His blood He set us free from our sins.

C He made us a family, children of the Heavenly Father.

Response "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

LSB 380 sts. 3, ref



3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



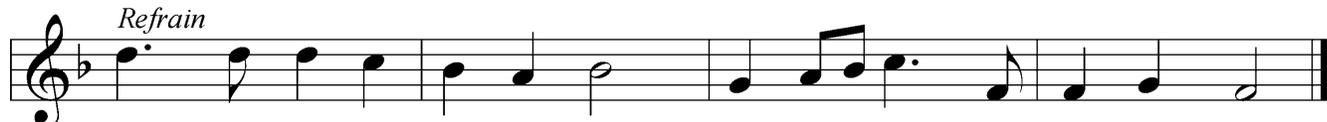
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



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

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

How rich the love with which You bless us, Lord our God; how manifold Your mercies! With angel hosts and lowly shepherds, we join to praise and magnify Your name: "Glory to God in the highest!" With heartfelt gratitude let us approach the throne of God's grace. And when our Savior, Christ the Lord, comes again in glory, once more surrounded by the holy angels, grant us the grace to be numbered among Your saints in glory everlasting; through the same Jesus who lives – and reigns as Christ the King – with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and evermore.

C Amen.

Hymn of Praise "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: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93

Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

Text and tune: Public domain

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the 7th Chapter:

Moreover the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test the LORD!" Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, O House of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel."

[Isaiah 7:10-14]

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Praise "Angels We Have Heard on High"

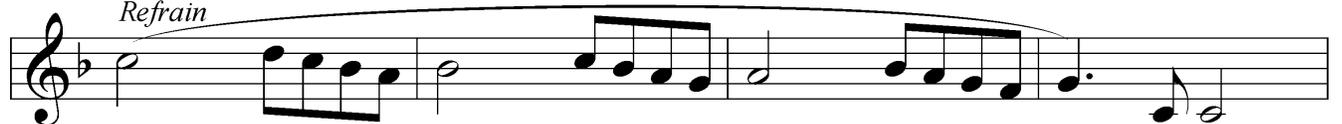
LSB 368



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.



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

The Epistle Reading is from First John, the 4th Chapter:

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

[I John 4:7-16]

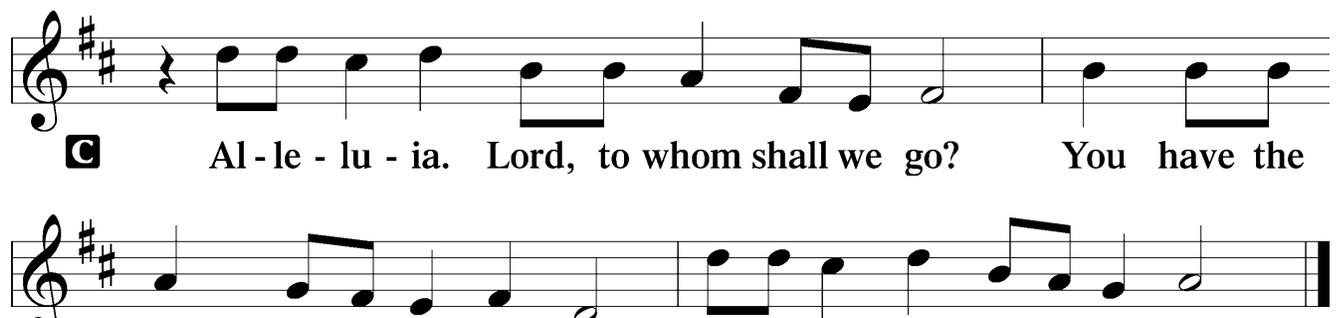
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Reading of the Holy Gospel

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 1st chapter:

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will

save His people from their sins." So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

[Saint Matthew 1:18-25]

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn of Praise "What Child is This"

LSB 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 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, 1837-98

Tune: English, 16th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon - Angels, Angels, Everywhere

Duet – “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” sung by Cheryl Gerson and Sue Schroeder

Confession of Faith - The Nicene Creed

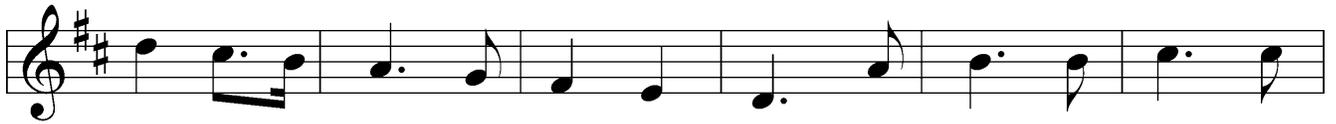
**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise "Joy to the World"

LSB 387



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

We Thank the Lord with the Offering

Prayer of the Church

P Heavenly Father, to whom glory is sung in the highest and peace is proclaimed to people on earth, give to Your Holy Church the peace of sins forgiven, and Your continued favor and merciful good will. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.

C That God would look with kind compassion on all congregations gathered everywhere this Holy Night; that as we have been united in celebration, we may also be united in heart and mind. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.

- P** That all of those whom the Lord has called to serve as shepherds of His flocks prove to be vigilant and watchful, guarding the pure Gospel from corruption, and preach the Word of God with boldness. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.
- C** **That God's messengers of peace continue to bring good tidings of great joy. Especially where there is grief or sadness in these holy days, that the light of God's eternal love may shine like a Christmas star, bringing special joy where it is most needed. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.**
- P** For those who are sick and hospitalized, those who have suffered physical or emotional injury, those who are abused or oppressed in any way, those in prison and their families, and those awaiting the angel of death – that our heavenly Father would wrap them all in his arms and grant them the comfort of his care. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.
- C** **Bless our country, all its citizens, and all who are in authority over us. Cause Your glory to dwell among us, and let mercy, truth, and justice prevail everywhere, that throughout our land people may come to know the Prince of Peace. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.**
- P** Merciful God, we thank You for the joys of family and friends this season, together with the abundance of Your blessings. Open our hearts and homes to the lonely and destitute that we may be Your instruments of love and charity. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.
- C** **Remember, we pray, the homeless, hungry, and oppressed, and give them hope. Protect the lonely and home-bound in very place. Grant peace and healing to the sick and suffering and those in the hospital. Guide the journeys of those who travel. Comfort those who mourn. Create a new and contrite heart in the erring and faith in those who have not heard the good news. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.**
- P** In the birth of Your Son, O God, who have clothed us with eternal life. We remember with thanksgiving all those who have died in the faith. Unite our voices with theirs that we may join the heavenly song of angels. Let us approach the Throne of God's Grace in Christ. O Lord, hear our prayers for the sake of Christ the King.

[thanksgiving and special intercessions are offered]

P For all these things and whatever else You would have us ask, we implore You to hear us gracious Father, through Jesus Christ our Savior, whom together with the Holy Spirit we praise, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Supper

Preface

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 meet to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in leaving His eternal throne and entering human history to pay for all our sins, He has shown us the extent of Your eternal love. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Sanctus

LSB 161



C 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.

The Epiiclesis

P Your Word, O Lord, called all things into existence and Your Word spoken through the prophets gave hope to a people caught in sin and its death. In Jesus Christ, Your Word has been made flesh to visit us with mercy, grace, and love. We acclaim Him as Yours and Mary’s Son; veiled in flesh is the fullness of Your glory. Help us trust in Him always and guide us to proclaim what He has done to restore us to You. By His dying and rising again, we have been freed from sin and its death to serve You as Your priestly people. Gathered in His name and in remembrance of Him we come before His table trusting not in our own works but in Your mercy alone. As we proclaim Him Lord, fill us with the Spirit that we may receive His holy body and precious blood for the strengthening of our faith and to equip us to live to the praise of Your glory, both now and eternally. Hear us in His Name, and teach us rightly to pray:

The Lord’s Prayer

LSB 162

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.**

The Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

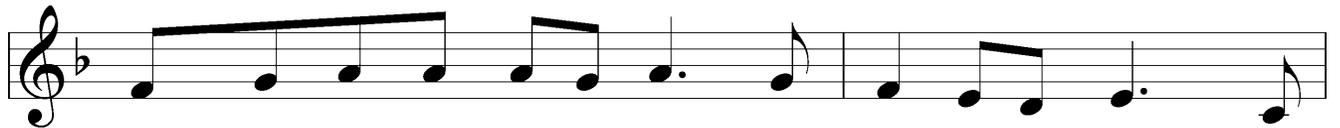
The Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

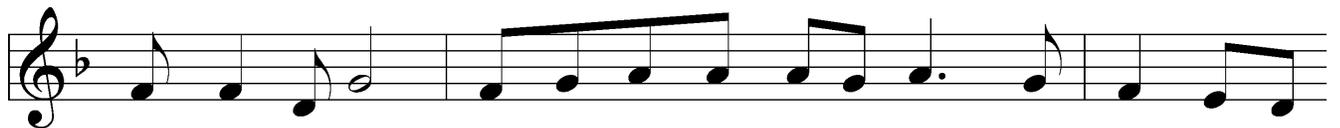
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

Solo – “Mary, Don’t You Know?” sung by Cheryl Gerson

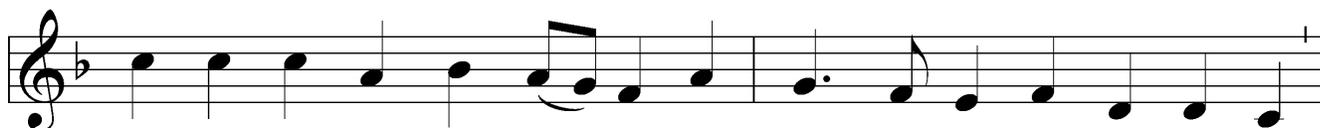
Music during the Distribution - "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Closing Verses

P The Light of Christ fills us, illuminates our inward selves so that we might be lights to the world. The joy of the birth of the Savior is in our hearts. We let His marvelous Light that is Life flow from us, and we bless the world. For we know with absolute certainty that ...

C **Jesus the Savior is born!**

P Praise the Lord with joy-filled hearts!

C **We praise Him! We bless Him! Christ is our King forever!**

P And He blesses you with His eternal gifts – the Gift of Christmas – and with the assurance of His unending grace and presence, now and forevermore.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you + Peace.

C Amen.

P The Virgin, alone with her betrothed husband, in a strange town, far from the comfort of her home, gave birth to a Child in the cattle loft of an Inn. This is how God came to us: not in a storm, not in an earthquake, not in the fire, but in the gentle crying of a newborn Baby. Behold the Light of Light, the Word made flesh, the Savior, Christ the Lord. Bask in the Light, the Lord Jesus, Light of the World who casts out all Darkness, the Savior, Christ the King. From Bethlehem, small among the clans of Judah, the King promised by the Lord has come. The Savior is here.

Lighting of the Candles

Closing Hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night"

LSB 363



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

Depart in Silent Joy and Peace - Christ the Savior is Born!

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