



Emmanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Traditional Christmas Eve Worship

6 pm Saturday, December 24, 2022

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Vienna, VA

Worship Livestream at www.facebook.com/elcvienna





Prelude

Adeste Fideles

arr. Sue Mitchell-Wallace

One License # 119228

Ross Mitchell, Trumpet and René Milam, Organ

Welcome

Invocation

Pastor: On this holy night of Christ's birth, we are gathered in worship in the name of the Father, ☩ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Call to Worship

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW 283

- 1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

Refrain

Venite adoremus,
venite adoremus,
venite adoremus Dominum.

- O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!
- 2 The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
 - 3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: *Refrain*



- 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

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

Christmas Eve Gathering Litany

Please rise as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life.

All: Amen.

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Pastor: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

All: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

All: In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Pastor: May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray...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 only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.



Special Music

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Megan Gerbracht, soprano

ELW 272

Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
 you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
 and the bar across their shoulders,
 the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
 and all the garments rolled in blood
 shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
 a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
 and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
 and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
 He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
 from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Go Tell It on the Mountain (chorus)

ELW 290



Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

Text: African American spiritual, refrain.

Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

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.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

“The Best Role in the Christmas Play” based upon Luke 2:1-20 by Pastor Lydia Posselt

Hymn of the Day

On Christmas Night (Sussex Carol)

ELW 274

1 On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring.
On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful king's birth.

2 Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad?
Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

3 When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
Angels rejoice with us and sing,
all for to see the newborn king.

4 All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night.
All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God in highest heav'n;
peace on earth, and goodwill. Amen."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.



Prayers of Intercession

Pastor: Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Pastor: Love proclaims that a Savior has been born to us! Inspire your church throughout the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus' birth to all who seek salvation, hope, and new life. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Love whispers to a weary world that the time for rest and restoration has come. Maintain healthy cycles of wake and sleep for all creatures. Where light pollution disrupts natural rhythms, encourage new practices. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Love cries to a warring world that the time for peace is at hand. Direct those in power who make decisions on behalf of others, that they nurture and sustain all that is healthy, good, and holy. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Love sings through the wails of a newborn baby. Respond to all who cry out in pain, despair, or need this night. Bring comfort to those for whom separation, grief, or loss makes the Christmas season especially difficult. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Love murmurs words of comfort to a newborn child and exhausted parents. Bless new and expectant parents or caregivers, especially those who are alone or afraid this night. Pour out your love upon families of every kind. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: God's ever-present love is proclaimed through the faithful who came before us. We give you thanks for Mary, John the baptizer, Elizabeth his mother, Joseph the dreamer, and all the saints who point toward your love. Merciful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.



Offering

Offerings in support of our mission and ministry can be made at www.elcvienna.org/give or mailed into the church. Every gift matters!

Offertory Anthem

Gesù Bambino

Pietro A. Yon

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Sanctuary Choir, Marion McInturff (violin), and René Milam (organ)

Meal: Jesus Gives Us Forgiveness and Life

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
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:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy (Advent/Christmas)

To the tune of "Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella"



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One. — God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and
earth are full of your glor - y. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed
is the one who comes — Blessed! Blessed! in — the name of God. —

“Holy, Holy (Advent/Christmas)” by David Eck, Copyright ©2020. Used by permission of the author.

Holy Communion Words of Institution

Pastor: We remember that in the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, “Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Pastor: And 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.”

The Lord’s Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray..

**All: 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.**



Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God! Come all are welcome!

All: Thanks be to God!

The congregation joins the choir in singing the communion hymns. We will continue singing until communion is served to everyone.

Communion Hymns

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW 276

- 1 Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!
- 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,



and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all the earth!

- 3 How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.
- 4 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!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

Away in a Manger

ELW 277

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.



Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Service of Light

Pastor: A reading from John.

In 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.

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.

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.

Candle Lighting

Sanctuary lights are dimmed and candles are lit as the choir begins to sing. The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing "Silent Night" immediately after the anthem with no break.

Choir Anthem

Night of Silence
One License # 00131

Daniel Kantor

Hymn

Silent Night, Holy Night!

1 Silent night, Holy night!
 All is calm, all is bright



Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

- 2 Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia,
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

- 3 Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

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Christmas Blessing

Pastor: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song

Joy to the World

ELW 267

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,



repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Dismissal

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest!

All: Peace to God's people on earth!

Pastor: As heralds of God's peace, go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah*

G.F. Handel

One License #195034

Ross Mitchell, Trumpet and René Milam, Organ

***Merry Christmas and thank you for worshipping with us tonight!
Join us Sunday at 10 am as we continue to celebrate the holy season
of Christmas here at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.***



The Poinsettias are given to the glory of God by:

- ❖ The Acuna family in memory of Lloyd & Ardella Ernst.
- ❖ The Allen family to the glory of God.
- ❖ David & Darla Anderson to the glory of God.
- ❖ The Applehans family in memory of Deanna Applehans.
- ❖ The Applehans family in memory of Betty Lauer.
- ❖ The Chiddister family in memory of our parents Dan Chiddister, Betty Ricker, and Don & Mary Lou Wilhite.
- ❖ The Cole family in memory of Elke Meldau-Womack—Best mother and grandmother ever, she was and is still so loved.
- ❖ The Connor family in memory of Catherine, Martin, and Michael Connor.
- ❖ The Connor/Haseley family in memory of Louis Haseley.
- ❖ Jill Cummings to the glory of God.
- ❖ Jill Cummings in memory of MinnieTom Meyer.
- ❖ Emmanuel Lutheran Preschool—Alison Morgan & Staff in honor of wishing all the congregation of ELC and all our ELP families Christmas Blessings! May peace, love, & joy fill each of your lives this coming year.
- ❖ Emmanuel Lutheran Preschool—Alison Morgan & Staff in honor of the Preschool wishes everyone Christmas Blessings this season! Peace, Love, & Joy for the congregation and all.
- ❖ Tom & June Fraim to the glory of God.
- ❖ The Gerke family to the glory of God.
- ❖ The Haas family to the glory of God.
- ❖ Jane & Rog Holtorf to the glory of God.
- ❖ Stephen and Elena in honor of the giving ELC community.
- ❖ The Moats family to the glory of God.
- ❖ Jerry & Carolyn Staska in honor of our families.
- ❖ Greg Stolp & Laurie Kusek in memory of Bob, Lorraine, Tim, & Steve Mortenson and Lori Mortenson Stolp.
- ❖ Greg Stolp & Laurie Kusek in memory of Ann Kusek, Jan Stolp, & Jean Farrell.
- ❖ Bob & Jeri Thomas in memory of our father, Peter Chittick.
- ❖ Bob & Jeri Thomas in honor of Abby Thomas.
- ❖ Bob & Jeri Thomas in honor of our son, Bradley Thomas.
- ❖ Bob & Jeri Thomas in honor of our daughter, Nora Thomas.
- ❖ Kathy Uffelman in memory of Malcolm Uffelman.

***Thanks to all who arranged the greenery and decorated
our church with it so beautifully!***



Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to nurture, grow, and share our Christian faith as Lutherans in a multi-cultural world. We envision Emmanuel Lutheran Church as a welcoming, vibrant, growing, and faith-filled Christian community whose participants generously share their time, talents, and resources in a changing world.

Our Welcome Statement

Emmanuel Lutheran Church welcomes all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome and affirm full participation by all because God welcomes all, regardless of race, culture, national origin, citizenship status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, relationship or socio-economic status, addictions, physical or mental health, disability, imprisonment, age, or other circumstances. OUR UNITY IS IN CHRIST.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church gathers upon the ancestral lands of the Manahoac people. Find out more about the Manahoac at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manahoac>.

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