



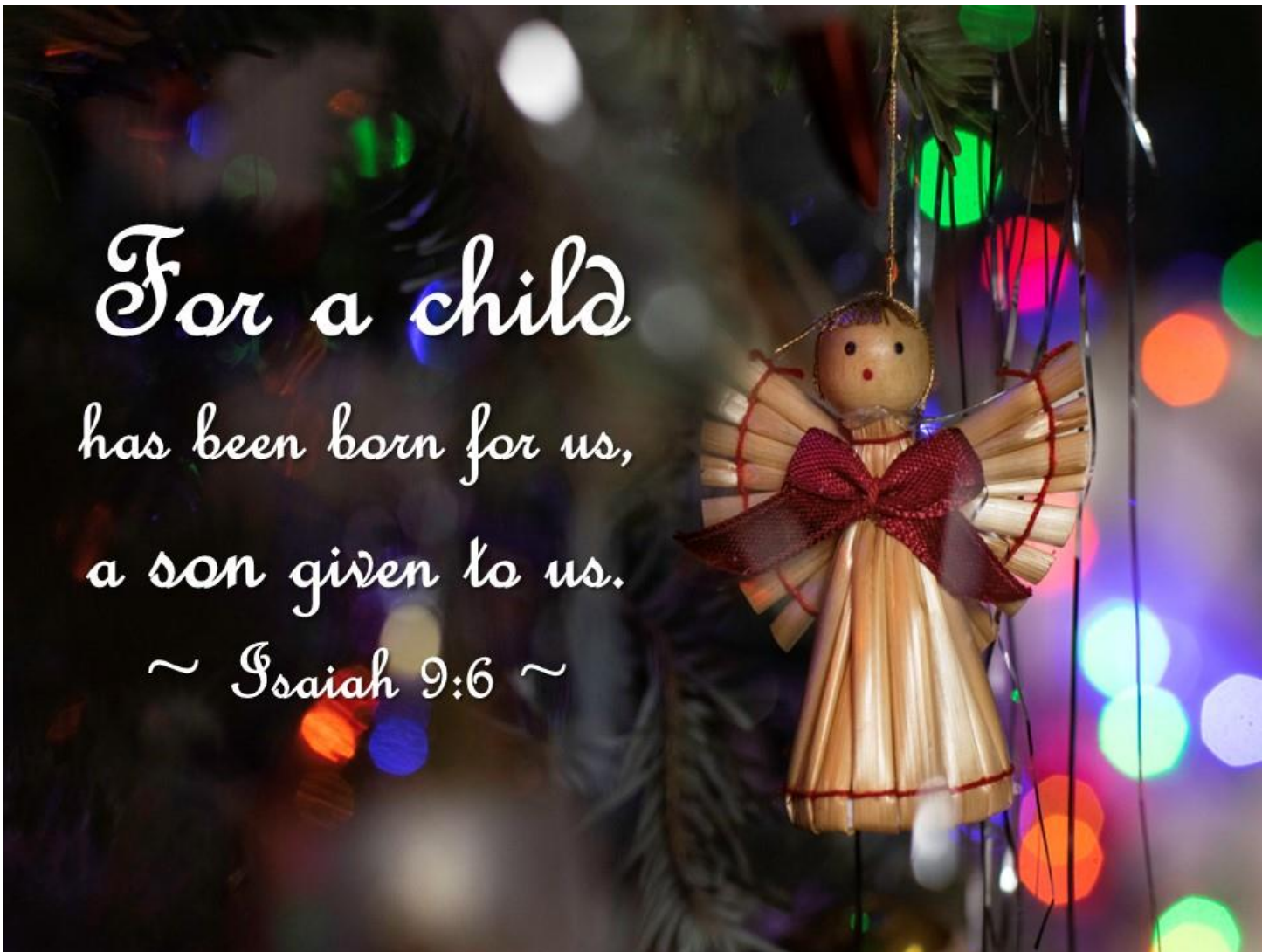
Emmanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Traditional Christmas Eve Worship

6 PM Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Vienna, VA

Worship Livestream at www.facebook.com/elcvienna





THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS US IN WORSHIP

Prelude

Fugue on "Adestes Fideles" arr. by Alan J. Hommerding. One License G11116.

Welcome

Welcome to worship at Emmanuel Lutheran Church! You can find bulletins and ways to give online at elcvienna.org. The liturgy will be projected for those in person. We invite newcomers to our welcome table outside the sanctuary after worship.

Christmas Eve Gathering Litany

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.



Hymn

Angels from the Realms of Glory
ELW 275, v.1

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

GOD'S WORD CALLS US TO DISCIPLESHIP

Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah, chapter nine.

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.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Hymn (remain seated)

Angels from the Realms of Glory
ELW 275, v.2

- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
 watching o'er your flocks by night,
 God with us is now residing,
 yonder shines the infant light.
 Come and worship, come and worship,
 worship Christ, the newborn king.

Psalm 96

Reader: A reading from Psalm 96.

- ¹ Sing to the LORD a new song;
 sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- ² Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
 proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare God's glory among the nations
 and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴ For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
 more to be feared ¹ than all gods.
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
 but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶ Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
 power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
 ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
 bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.
- ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
 tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- ¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!
 The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge
the peoples with equity."
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;



let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹² Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem

Noel

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Redman

CCLI Song #7050419

Titus 2:11-14

Reader: A reading from Titus, chapter two.

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Angels from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275, v.4

4 All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4



Gospel Luke 2:1-20

Pastor: The good news of the birth Jesus Christ 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

“Fear Not” based upon Luke 2:1-20 by Pastor Lydia Posselt

Hymn of the Day



Love Has Come
ELW 292

- 1 Love has come—a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

- 2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

- 3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950. One License 08897.

Prayers

Leader: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice. Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Blessed are you, Wonderful Counselor. You enlighten the heart with steadfast love. Enliven your church that it might bear good tidings of great joy to all people.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Blessed are you, Emmanuel. You promise to be with us even to the end of the age. Open our eyes to see your presence in all who are hungry, lonely, or homeless.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.



Leader: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity. Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh. Reveal yourself to us in Word and Sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

All: Come, Lord Jesus. Be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Amen.

Peace

Leader: May the peace of the risen Lord be with you always!

All: And Also with you.

Leader: Let us share God's peace.

Offering

Offerings in support of our mission and ministry can be made at www.elcvienna.org/give or mailed into the church. Our ushers will take up the collection in person. Every gift matters!

Offertory Anthem

"O Holy Night" by Adolphe Adam, sung by Megan Gerbracht. One License 211091.

JESUS GIVES US FORGIVENESS AND LIFE IN THE HOLY SUPPER

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Eucharistia)

Pastor: Let us pray...God of love, on this Holy Night we give you thanks for your Son given to us, born for us, living, dying, and rising again for us. Bless us now with your holy Word, with this bread and wine, with the true presence of Jesus in this feast of love.

All: Amen



What Feast of Love ELW 487, v.1

- 1 What feast of love is offered here,
 what banquet come from heaven?
 What food of everlasting life,
 what gracious gift is given?
 This, this is Christ the king,
 the bread come down from heaven.
 Oh, taste and see and sing!
 How sweet the manna given!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. One License 98260.

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."

What Feast of Love ELW 487, v.3

- 3 What wine of love is offered here,
 what crimson drink from heaven?
 What stream of everlasting life,
 what precious blood is given?
 This, this is Christ the king,
 the sweetest wine of heaven.
 Oh, taste and see and sing!
 The Son of God is given!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. One License 98260.

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."

What Feast of Love ELW 487, v.2

- 2 What light of truth is offered here,
 what covenant from heaven?
 What hope of everlasting life,



what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. One License 98260.

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 children of God—come, all are welcome!

All: Thanks be to God!

Communion Instructions

All are invited to come forward to receive communion or a blessing. Wafers will be dipped in wine and handed to you. If you prefer a wafer without wine, please let us know. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. We have goldfish and a blessing for our non-communing children. You are also welcome to pray at the communion rail after you have been communed.

Communion Hymns

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

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

- 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. Public domain.

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. Public domain.

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. Public domain.

Service of Light

(Lights are partially lowered.)

Pastor: A reading from the gospel of John, chapter one.

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 Hymn

(Sanctuary lights are dimmed and candles are lit.)

Silent Night, Holy Night!
ELW 281

- 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.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885. Public domain.

THE HOLY SPIRIT LEADS US INTO THE WORLD IN MISSION

Christmas Blessing

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

All: Amen.

(The lights are raised and candles may be extinguished.)

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. Public domain.

Sending

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

Canzona on "Antioch" by Michael Helman. One License 10-166.

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

Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to nurture, grow, and share our Christian faith as Lutherans in a multicultural 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.

Land Acknowledgement

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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