

(Joy to the Word – Continual)

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 make the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

**Postlude:** “Christmas Postlude”

Charles Callahan

**Merry Christmas**

Organist: Dr. Valerie Manning

We'd like to thank you for joining us for this late night celebration of our Lord's birth. We invite you to join us again. Our Sunday service is at 11:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to call – (405) 235-1013

## **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

December 24, 2020



**JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME!**

### **First Lutheran Church**

1300 North Robinson  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103  
(405) 235-1013  
[www.firstlutheranchurchokc.org](http://www.firstlutheranchurchokc.org)

**A Church which believes the Bible is true and Jesus is Lord!**

**Prelude** “What Child is This?”  
Announcements

Organ

arr. Dan Chadburn

### “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

1. O come all ye faithful joyful and triumphant;  
Come ye, o, come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;  
(*Chorus*) O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!
2. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, Glory In the highest: (*Chorus*)
3. Yea, Lord we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n;  
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing; (*Chorus*)

### Opening Blessing

*P) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C) Amen.*

*P) For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given,*

**C) and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace** (Isaiah 9:6).

### The Confession of Sins & Forgiveness

*P) Brothers and sisters, we gather this evening to celebrate our Lord and Savior’s birth. “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a Son, and will call Him Immanuel”—which means God with us* (Isaiah 7:14).

**C) As we celebrate the joy of the Word becoming flesh, we also remember that we are sinners. We have sinned against You and against ourselves with our wrong attitudes of selfishness and pride. We have not followed completely what You have told us in Your Word and have at times even rebelled against Your ways. We are sorry. We seek Your forgiveness and cleansing through Your Son Jesus Christ, to whom all praise and glory will be given. In His name. Amen.**

### “Silent Night, Holy Night!”

Joseph Mohr

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, Heav’nly 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

### Prayer for Christmas

*P) Let us pray. O God, who has made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, Your Son, our Savior, Jesus; Grant, we ask You, that as we have known on earth the mysteries of that Light, we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. C) Amen*  
*(The candles are extinguished)*

### Benediction

*P) The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with His favor and grant you His peace!  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen!*

### “Joy to the World”

Isaac Watts

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 & nature sing
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,  
While fields & floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

P) *Our LORD Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat; This is My Body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of Me."* (2 Corinthians 11:23-24)

*After the same manner 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, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."* (2 Corinthians 11:25)

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*(Please be seated, preparing heart and mind to come forward to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus, our Savior.)*

### Distribution and Dismissal

P) *Let us pray: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this gift of life, 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. C) Amen.*

### The Candle Lighting Ceremony

*The pastor lights a candle from the altar candles; the ushers light their candles from the pastors' candle. The ushers then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle.*

**DO NOT TIP THE LIGHTED CANDLES!**

P) *On this Eve of our Savior's birth, hear and know the "Good News:" Your sins are forgiven! In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. C) **Amen and amen!***

P) *Blessed are You, O LORD our God, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world You had given, this night, Your only-begotten Son that all those who believe in Him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16) We give You thanks for the salvation You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His Holy Supper. C) **Amen***

### The Word of God

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7** (ESV) The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

P) *This is the Word of the LORD, C) **Thanks be to God.***

**Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14** (ESV) For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

P) *This is the Word of the LORD, C) **Thanks be to God.***

### **"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.  
(*Chorus*) Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? (*Chorus*)
3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (*Chorus*)

**The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20** (ESV) In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she

gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" <sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### The Apostles' Creed

*P) Let us confess our saving faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed*

**C) I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ His only Son our LORD, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

**"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

Charles Wesley

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
(*Chorus*) Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."
2. Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting LORD;  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th' Incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Immanuel. *Chorus:*

3. 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 man no more may die.  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. *Chorus:*

### The Sermon

### Christmas Offering

Refection on "Away in a Manger"

David Schelat

### Service of the Sacrament

*P) The LORD be with you. C) And also with you.*

### We Prepare

*P) The Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ has been instituted for the special comfort and strengthening of those who humbly confess their sins, and who hunger and thirst after righteousness. Forasmuch as we intend to come to the Lord's Table, it becomes us diligently to examine ourselves as the Apostle Paul exhorts us.*

*P) I ask you, in the presence of God who searches the heart:*

*Do you confess that you are by nature a most unworthy sinner, and that you have grievously offended against Him, in thought, word and deed, and merited only His wrath and condemnation?*

**C) I do so confess**

*P) Do you trust entirely in the mercy of God in Jesus Christ?*

**C) I do so trust.**

*P) Do you promise heartily to forgive others, as you believe that God forgives you, and to serve Him henceforth in the newness of life, to the glory of His Holy Name?*

**C) I do so promise.**

### The Words of Institution

*P) Let us pray, ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your Holy Name through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. C) Amen.*