

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and handicap friendly Congregation

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Sunday, December 29, 2024

10:00 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music

Une flambeau, Jeannette, Isabella!
[Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella]

Uehlein

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Opening Dialog

'Come and see'

Light to splinter darkness.

Hope to lift the soul.

Peace to ring the changes.

Grace resounds for all.

Night, the time for birthing.

Stars to guide us on.

Angels' voices singing,
joining with our song.

Come and see the newborn.

Come with new-found joy.

**Come, for heaven's rejoicing,
Mary's infant boy!**



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him,through his own re - deem-ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand-ing by,



where a moth-er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel-ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low-ly, lived on earth our Sav-ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of our darkest nights and brightest days,
fill us with your hope as we celebrate with joyful hearts
the birth of Christ.

May familiar words speak to us with a new voice
and may the song of Bethlehem reach into our hearts.
This we ask in the name of Jesus, Light of the world.
Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

1st lesson: Isaiah 60:1–3 ‘The assurance of light in the darkness’

Jimmy Lee Werley

A Reading from Isaiah.

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.



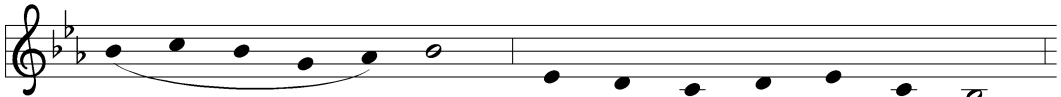
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

A Reading from Isaiah.

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.
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.

Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Verses 1, 3

ELW 257



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

A Reading from Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Reading

‘Christmas Dreams’

Dreams fill these Christmas stories.

Dreams of blessing.

Dreams of warning.

Dreams of reassurance.

Real dreams.

In our world of ordered common sense
dreams are often forgotten
in the morning light.

But today, Nativity invites us
to open hearts
and souls
and dream.

And in our dreaming we may find
the manger-child
reaching out to us.



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

4th lesson: Luke 2:1-7

'The birth of Jesus'

Marian Harrison

A Reading from Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar 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 in the guest room.

Reading

'Entrusted to your care'

Entrusted to your care
to nurse and raise
this infant one.

Entrusted to your care,
a child for now
to protect and hold.

Entrusted to your care,
into your safekeeping
for childhood days ahead.

Entrusted to your care;
in joys and deepest sorrows
you'll be there.

Entrusted to your care
for now . . .

And then in time to come,
with outstretched arms
he will declare
your care entrusted
to another.

For now,
this first moment
will be remembered . . .
before tears flow.



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 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,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 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 your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 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 your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

5th lesson: Luke 2:8–20

'The shepherds visit the baby Jesus'

Deb Smith

A Reading from Luke.

Now in that same 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,
and 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,
just as it had been told them.

Reading

‘So there we are’

So there we are then, all that fuss . . .
Bright lights in the sky, angels’ wings causing such commotion, and for what?

So here we are then; all that effort spent hillwalking
to stable door with no more to see than this?

Then here we are. Can we believe, in such a rudimentary scene
lies one whose presence should cause such almighty fuss?

But here we are then, and tired she looks, and he no less exhausted.
Perhaps they weren’t expecting visits quite so soon.
So now we go then?
Our visit done,
back to the sheepy-shrubland and cold night air,
to share our story there.



1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all
 2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had
 3 "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, is
 4 "The heav'n - ly babe you there shall find to



seat - ed on the ground, the an - gel of the
 seized their trou - bled mind: "Glad tid - ings of great
 born of Da - vid's line the Sav - ior, who is
 hu - man view dis - played, all hum - bly wrapped in



Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.
 joy I bring to you and hu - man - kind.
 Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign:
 swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."

6th lesson: Matthew 2:1–12

'The visit of the Magi'

Julie Timmcke

A Reading from Matthew.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reading

‘Where is he?’

‘Where is he?’ we asked the king in splendid palace dwelling.
We’d travelled far beneath the star whose light was onward calling.

‘When morning comes, I’ll tell you, but now you’re here as guests –
enjoy the feast and find release and let your bodies rest.’

‘Where is he?’ the king enquired from royal advisors wise.
‘In David’s town, we do believe, the new Lord will arise.’

‘Then I must pay him homage,’ the king with smile replied.
‘Please tell me when you’ve found him and where this newborn lies.’
He must have thought us so naive to listen to his voice,
but years of star-led travelling brings wisdom, insight, choice.

Fast we left the royal presence. Fast we journeyed on.
Fast the star that filled the sky moved on before the dawn.

Then, by its light, the child we found, no palace-rest for him,
and having given all we’d brought we left without a sound.

Within his mother's arms held tight and blessed by a father's inner sight
this child is safe until he grows, until his love and grace is known,
until the powerful are brought to find in him their wealth, their words, their mind,
mere nothings now before his light.

Power may be found in palaces, in lies and twisted truth, but wisdom's presence needs
no show, no pomp, no force, for us to know that here beneath the star-lit glow
true love lies waiting here below.

Reflection

'What brought you here today?'

What brought you here today?

Some among us might take this question literally, replying perhaps, 'the bus' or 'a car',
or 'I came on foot'. Others in response might say something like, 'This is my Church,
that's what brought me here.'

But is there something deeper within the question which we might consider?

In the midst of our listening and singing, we pause for a moment ...
What brought you here today?

Pause

Our question might also be posed about those gathered during the night of Jesus' birth, and during the days that followed. What brought Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and Magi, to Bethlehem? A Roman census, angelic appearances, a star in the sky. Even Herod's advisors played their part in assembling the tableau much loved by Nativity plays. A mix of events and dreams and interventions brought them to that place.

In so many ways, this is a very ordinary story, of a birth far from home in a place of oppression. But this ordinary story becomes one of wonder, as we discover the everyday entwined with the Divine.

And so when they leave that place – the shepherds to the hillside;
the Magi to their homes by another path; Mary, Joseph and Jesus into exile –
none is left the same as when they arrived.

And for those of us who have come here tonight, do we leave as the same people?
Does the Christmas story stop in this place, packed away and boxed up for another
year? Or do we feel an invitation to somehow take a step beyond who we are now?

In the midst of our listening and singing, we pause again for a moment ...
Are you, like the Magi, being called to walk a different path,
to go home another way? ...
How do you want to live your life this year, and beyond? ...

Pause

What brought you here today? Did you come by bus, by car or on foot?
Are you here by tradition or belonging, to enquire or for some comfort? ...
Whatever brought us here, we arrived through God's invitation to 'come and see'.

May we leave today in the Light of God's transforming love and grace.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayers of the People

(Invitation to prayer.)

Entrusting God, we rejoice that you gave the care of your Son to Mary and Joseph.
We pray for those in our world this day who have been entrusted with the care of
children, and who fear for the present and the future.

Pause

May your word speak into the hearts of this world with love.
Entrusting God,
Be born in our hearts and in your world.

Entrusting God, we recall the worship of shepherds and Magi.
We thank you for those who listen for the voices of angels,
and who are open to the message of the star.
We pray for those who struggle with faith,
and for those who would love to have faith.

Pause

May your word speak into the hearts of this world with hope.
Entrusting God,
Be born in our hearts and in your world.

Entrusting God, we rejoice that your Word has come amongst us. We pray for peoples and congregations who witness to the Word made flesh. Enable us to be faithful in our worship and in our service, that your faith in us may find fulfilment.

Pause

May your word speak into the hearts of this world with faith.
Entrusting God,
Be born in our hearts and in your world.

Entrusting God, forgive us that so often we welcome Christ in the manger, but fail to see him in our midst. Open our eyes to welcome him in the homeless and the lonely; in those for whom justice never seems to come; in those oppressed by others and whose hope is lost. Forgive us when we turn away. As we rejoice at the stable-door, renew our commitment to travel with the child born in the manger, as he challenges your world today.

Pause

(Pastor's final petition.)
May your word speak into the hearts of this world with hope.
Entrusting God,
Be born in our hearts and in your world.
Amen

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Offering Carol, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Offering Carol

In the Bleak Midwinter

Verse 4



1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, Frost - y wind made moan,
2. Our God, heav'n can - not hold him, Nor earth sus - tain;
3. An - gels and arch - an - gels May have gath - ered there,
4. What can I give him, Poor as I am?



Earth stood hard as i - ron, Wa - ter like a stone;
Heav'n and earth shall flee a - way When he comes to reign;
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim Thronged the air;
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



Snow had fall - en, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid - win - ter A sta - ble place suf - ficed The
But his moth - er on - ly, In her maid - en bliss,
If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet



In the bleak mid - win - ter, Long a - go.
Lord God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
Wor - shipped the be - lov - ed With a kiss.
what I can I give him— Give my heart.

We rise in body or spirit.

Offering prayer

Let us pray.

In a world so often surrounded by darkness, we give you our thanks and praise, O God of love, for the gift of Christ, born among us. Challenge us and renew us, we pray. May these gifts freely given find their reflection in lives given freely that your Kingdom may come. In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

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:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, praise to you be giv-en.



All your glo-ry fills the earth, and it fills the hea-vens.



Bles-sed is the King who came bring-ing love di - vine.



Bles-sed is the King who comes in the bread and wine.

Words of Institution

Send your Sprit on us and on this meal of wonder.
In this bread, give us the body of Christ.
With this cup, reveal the grace of your risen song.
Make known to the whole earth your steadfast love.

Glor-y to you, O God.

In these dark days, bring the dawn of your righteousness to birth.
Hold the living and the dead in your hands.
In your good time, awaken the sleeping animals,
and revive the dormant plants with your life-giving Sprit.

Glor-y to you, O God.

With trumpets and horns and harps, with the faithful on earth and the hosts of heaven, we sing to your splendor, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God Most High, Light of the earth, today and forever.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray.

**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**

Invitation to the table

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.
Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



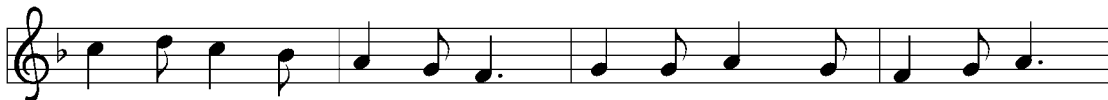
hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!



- 1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the 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!

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after communion

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace,
 comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy.

Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

May the grace of God, star-forming Creator,
and the love of Christ, born amongst us,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
opening hearts and lives to hope and joy,
be with us this day, this Christmastime,
and for evermore.

Amen

Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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.



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

Dismissal

You have seen the Word made flesh.
Go with joy to share the good news.
Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

Sending Music

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Archer

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venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.



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Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Karin Kahler, Director, Faith Formation for Children
Nancy Pfeffer, Interim Choir Director

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Vi Ballard

Communion Assistants

Robert Neitz, Vi Ballard

Greeter

Ava Killingsworth

Usher

Larry Killingsworth

Production/Technology Team

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Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill,
Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,
Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

Altar Care

Cindy Clark, Terri Hinderliter, Carol Osenbach, Barb Roba, Deb Stevens,
Lynda Swartz, Julie Timmcke, Jennifer Wetzel