

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
Christmas Eve ~ candlelight & communion
December 24, 2025 ~ 5:00pm
The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor



~ Christmas poinsettias are dedicated to the Glory of God ~
Saint Luke Lutheran Church warmly welcomes guest musician
Al Pittman, piano and violin

PRESERVICE MUSIC ~ selections presented by Al Pittman and Bud Esper

"Ring Out, Ye Wild and Merry Bells", arr. Ethel Smith.

©1952 Ethel Smith Music.

"I Saw Three Ships" (English carol), arr. David Hegarty.

©1985 Lorenz Publishing.

"O Little Town of Bethlehem", arr. Ethel Smith.

©1952 Ethel Smith Music.

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Five Short Christmas Vignettes from the Kelly Collection, by Daniel Kelly.

"Good King Wencelas" (Piae Cantiones)

"O Christmas Tree" (German traditional)

"Christ Was Born On Christmas Day" (Traditional)

"Fum, Fum, Fum" (Catalan carol)

"He Is Born" (Traditional carol)

©2008 Last Resort Music, Inc.

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Joy to the World", Handel-Ashford, Bud Esper, Al Pittman.

Congregation stands

CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE

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

C **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

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

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

P For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C **In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

P May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

C **And also with you.**

GATHERING HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful", #283

(Music on next page)

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE S-203 *(Front of hymnal, page S-203)*

(Music following "O Come, All Ye Faithful" on next page)

HYMN OF PRAISE "Angels We Have Heard On High"

(Music following "KYRIE" on next page)

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The 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 the God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est;
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

KYRIE S-203 *(Front of hymnal, page S-203)*

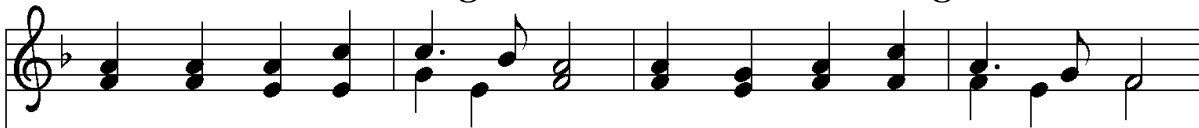


- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

HYMN OF PRAISE “Angels We Have Heard On High”



- 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.



REFRAIN

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

WA Let us pray.

C **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 Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Congregation sits

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

FIRST READING Isaiah 9: 2-7

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 96

L ¹Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

C ²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

L ³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

C ⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

L ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

C ⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

L ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

C ⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

L ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

C 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."**

- L ¹¹Let 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.
- C ¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**
- L ¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND READING Titus 2: 11-14

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation stands

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia" S-151a



GOSPEL Luke 2: 1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation sits

+ **SERMON + THE REVEREND DR. CHRISTIAN EICHORN, PASTOR+**

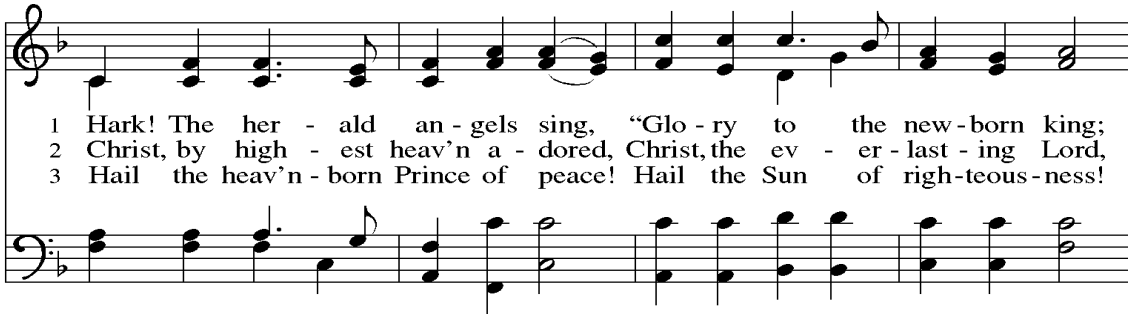
Silence for meditation

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #270

(Music on next page)

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” #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.

Refrain



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

NICENE CREED

WA Let us confess the faith of the church.

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from
Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one
Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For
us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became
truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he
rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended
into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He
will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who
proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father
and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for
the church, creation, and all who are in need.

WA ...Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our
prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and
eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

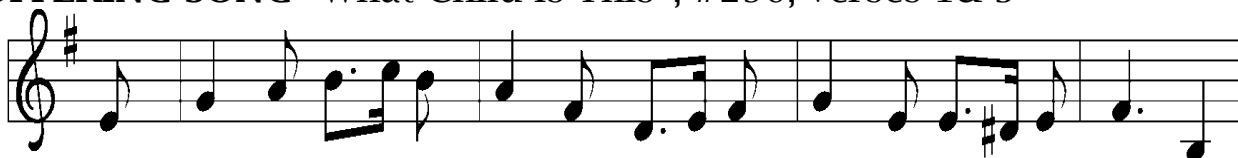
Congregation sits

OFFERTORY “All Is Well”, arr. Marty Parks. St. Luke Voice Choir.

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Congregation stands

OFFERING SONG “What Child Is This”, #296, verses 1& 3



- 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!

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“THE GREAT THANKSGIVING” S-206 (*Front of hymnal, page #206*)

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 right to give our thanks and praise.

P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” S-207 (*Front of hymnal, page #207*)



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho-san - na in the high - est.

P ... in your holy church, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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

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.**

Congregation sits

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Holy Communion, the Sacrament of the Altar, is open to all baptized Christians. All others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. When served by standing rows from the center aisle, receive the wafer from Pastor then move to the Communion Assistant to pick up cup of wine or clear grape juice from the tray. Return to your pew using the side aisle. Communion will be brought to those who are uncomfortable navigating around the Sanctuary.

"LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)" S-208 (*Front of hymnal, page #208*)



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear” #282

“Once In Royal David’s City” #269

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” #276

Congregation stands

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P ...born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raised”, #204



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



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

P Let us pray...through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

CHRISTMAS CANDLE LIGHTING

P And God said, "let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. God is light and in Him is no darkness. If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin. Arise, shine, for your Light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

P The light shines in the darkness,

C **and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C **and we have beheld Christ's glory**

P To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C **In the word was life and the life was the light of all people.**

*Congregation lights individual candles and sings
"Silent Night".*

"SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT", #281 (all three verses)

(Words on next page)

“Silent Night, Holy Night”, #281 *(all three verses)*

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 your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BENEDICTION

P ...The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Joy To the World", #267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions 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

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, and re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the sound - ing joy.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his found.
 heav'n and na - ture sing, heav'n and na - ture sing, and na - ture sing.

WA Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace.
Proclaim this good news.
C Thanks be to God.

*When exiting via the Narthex,
leave your candle in the bin provided.*

~Thank you for worshiping with us this Christmas Eve~

The following members assisted
with today's onsite worship and live streaming
Altar Guild ~ Deb Mardis, Sara Hart
AV Team ~ Rodney & Leigh Ann Stinson
Bulletin Cover Art ~ Lori Schneider
Bulletin ~ Dawn Plyler
Bud Esper, Director of Church Music, St. Luke Voice Choir
Kim Hawkins, Conductor, Handbells, St. Luke Handbell Choir
Communion Assistants ~ Lori Schneider, Marie Keating
Crucifer ~ Dan Mardis
Eucharistic Minister Joyce Rivenburgh
Ushers ~ Steve Kirby, Dan Mardis, Jim Meyer,
Bob Moore, Kenn Nelson
Worship Assistant ~ Pam Eichorn

We wish you and yours a very Blessed and Merry Christmas!

For those that have purchased a poinsettia(s),
feel free to take your poinsettia(s) with you after the worship service.
Grab a Poinsettia sleeve in the Narthex when you leave for easy convenience.
Thank you to the St. Luke Altar Guild for beautifully decorating the church this Christmas! A
special thank you to those who kept the poinsettias watered and thriving!

SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm
The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor | cell/text: 610.393.7622 | email: pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org
Kristen Killoran, Worship Assistant | Pam Eichorn, Worship Assistant
Bud Esper, M.A., Director of Music | stlukemusic@stlukeoib.org
Dawn Plyler, Parish Administrator | main: 910.579.0107 | email: stlukeelca@stlukeoib.org
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*Poinsettia Dedications
Offered to the Glory of God by*



Joan Ateshian

In Memory of Tom & Martha Florez (parents)
In Honor of Ronald Ateshian

Rich & Linda Gallose

In Honor of our children and grandchildren

Karen Barnhart

In Memory of Andrew Wolff (son)
In Memory of Bob Barnhart
In Memory of Robert Wolff

David Gizzi

In Memory of Alexander Gizzi
In Memory of Charlene Gizzi

John Borchert

In Memory of Robert Borchert
In Memory of Warren Baldt

Emil and Carolyn Gnam

In Memory of loved ones
In Honor of children, their spouses,
grandchildren and great grandchildren

Rick & Debbie Collins

In Honor of our grandchildren

Jeff & Kathy Hand

In Memory of our parents

Jim & Judy Drake

In Honor of Pastor Chris and Pam

Bob & Sara Hart

In Memory of John Schmidt
In Memory of Trudy Freeman

Walt & Joan Eccard

In Memory of beloved parents
In Honor of our children and grandchildren

Lamont Jordan

In Memory of Blair, Kaylee Church
In Honor of children and grandchildren

Pastor & Pam Eichorn

In Honor of our grandkids,
Rowan, Jonah, Eliza, and Avery

Steve & Elaine Kirby

In Honor of our children and grandchildren

Donald & Marjorie Eisenman

In Memory of our parents
In Memory of our brothers and my sisters

John & Teresa Klemmer

In Memory of family and friends

Sharon Flecha

In Memory of Tony Flecha
In Memory of Bob Heckman

Jim & Pat Meyer

In Honor of our daughter, Robin
In Honor of our daughter-in-law, Sonny

*Poinsettia Dedications
Offered to the Glory of God by*



Kenn & Jeanne Nelson

In Memory of our parents
In Honor of our children and grandchildren

Barbara Okula

In Honor of Anthony and Janice Merrill

Dona Quinlan

In Memory of Patrick Quinlan
In Memory of Lorna, Richard & David Haase

Bob Regan

In Memory of Connie Regan
In Honor of Sr. Airman Mark Regan

Bob & Kathy Rose

In Memory of Barbara DuFour

A Beautiful Anonymous Parishioner

In Memory of loved ones
In Honor of loved ones

Patricia Shoda

In Memory of Charles Shoda
In Memory of Mark Kowalick

Joy Smith

In Memory of Paul and Evelyn Miller

Joe & Sharon Tulio

In Memory of loved ones

Beverly Werner

In Memory of loved ones

Alan & Debra Willms

In Memory of Fred and Elia Willms
In Memory of Jack and Marilyn Faber
In Memory of Rita Falconieri

Richard Wood

In Memory of Diane V. Wood

Frank & Sue Zimmerman

In Honor of our grandchildren