

DECEMBER 24TH, 2025

Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Virginia, MN
Pastor Liz Cheney

MUSICIANS

Kris Weikum, Organist, Anna De Foe, Pianist

CALL TO WORSHIP *Nunc Dimittis~Lord, You Now Have Set Your Servant Free...* *Anna De Foe, Pianist*

WELCOME AND CANDLE LIGHTING

CHOIR ANTHEM *Peace, Peace*

Words & Music by Rick and Sylvia Powell, Arr. By Fred Bock, 1969, Matterhorn Music

HYMN OF LIGHT

Silent Night, Holy Night

ELW# 281

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.

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!



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.

CHRISTMAS GREETING

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

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

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

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

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

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

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY 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.

HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful, vs. 1, 2, 3, 4

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***



FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector, Nina Kampf

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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

- 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!
- 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!

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo

- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*



THIRD READING: Luke 2:1-7

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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR *What Can I Give to the Holy Child*

Words & Music by Robert Lau, 1983, Jensen Publications

FOURTH READING: Luke 2:8-20

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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN & CHILDREN’S TIME

This Little Light of Mine

Children please come forward, choose a light and join us for the song!

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. | 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. |
| 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. | |



THE PRAYERS

Wonderful Counselor, increase our joy as the church gathers on this holy night to sing of our dear Savior’s birth. May the story of salvation live in the hearts of all who sing of its wonders. God of grace, **Hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, you have broken the yoke of sin’s burden through the birth of your Son. Comfort those whose burdens distract them from the deeper peace of this holy night and grant them a restful mind. God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

Everlasting Father, uphold all who are in sorrow or need of your divine goodness and mercy. We remember with thanksgiving all who have died and who now rest in your peaceful light. God of love, **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, bathe us always in the light of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERING *Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC!*

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SPECIAL MUSIC

Anna De Foe, Pianist, Kristi Ongalo, Soprano

OFFERING PRAYER God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

pg. 191

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

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace. All are welcome!

**Apple juice is served in the middle of the Communion trays, and red wine will be in the outer rings. Gluten free wafers are also available for you individually wrapped; let the Pastor know if you will require one.*

COMMUNION HYMNS **See Red Hymnals*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Away in a Manger

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



ELW 270

ELW 276

ELW 277

ELW 282

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. Amen.

BLESSING

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

ELW# 290

Refrain

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

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. **Refrain**

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain**

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain**

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest! **And peace to God's people on earth!**
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE HYMN: CHOIR LEADING
POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

ELW# 267

Kristen Weikum, Organist



Merry Christmas

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Shannon, Dale, Adeline, Sue, Jim, Wendy, Fred, Harry, Scooby, Larry, Caleb, Pete, Jake, Laurie, Mike, Matthew C, Mark O., Marge, Dana, Doug, Matthew, Bill, Mark, Dena, Jeff & family, Dan, Steve, Rick & Betsy, Gordon, Ross (post-transplant surgery), Doris, Shari, Anna, Jeanette, Aaron, Shawn, Nicole, Gayla, Sarah, Brandy, Rick, Janet, Tom, Lynn M., Archer, Sharon, Mary, Debbie, Leanne, Addy, Deb, Cliff, Lorraine M., Eric, Kyle, Pr. Art, Bob D, John W, Gerilyn, Phyllis, Wally, Tedd, Ralph, Chuck, Sue.

***Call the church office if you have a prayer need and we will send it to the prayer chain if you desire.
If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call
Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.***

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OFFICE ADMIN HOURS:
CLOSED MONDAYS & HOLIDAYS. OPEN TUES.- FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Liz is here Tues.-Thurs. & does visits etc., Mon. & Fri.
Call @ 218-780-8907 or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, Jen Fredrickson, Anna & Jim De Foe



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.