



Carols Before the Liturgy – 6:40pm

A Carol	<i>“Angels from the Realms of Glory”</i>	Hymnal #275
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A Carol	<i>“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”</i>	Hymnal #288
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A Carol	<i>“What Child is This?”</i>	Hymnal #296
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A Carol	<i>“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”</i>	Hymnal #271
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A Carol	<i>“Away in a Manger”</i>	Hymnal #277
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The Celebration Continues!

December 24

11:00pm The Shepherd's Mass Grace
With Pre-service Carols at 10:45

December 25

8:30am Coffee Hour St. Paul's
9:30am Carols and Holy Communion St. Paul's



Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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The Proclamation of the Birth of Christ

Reader Throughout the season of Advent, the Church has reflected on God's promises, so often spoken by the prophets, to send a savior to the people of Israel who would be Emmanuel, that is, God with us. In the fullness of time those promises were fulfilled. With hearts full of joy let us listen to the proclamation of our Savior's birth.

Celebrant The Twenty-fifth Day of December, when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world,
When God in the beginning created heaven and earth,
And formed man in his own likeness;
When century upon century had passed
Since the Almighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood
as a sign of covenant and peace;
In the twenty-first century since Abraham, our father in faith,
came out of Ur of the Chaldees;
In the thirteenth century since the people of Israel were led by Moses in the exodus from Egypt;
Around the thousandth year since David was anointed King;
In the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel;
In the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;
In the year seven hundred and fifty-two
since the foundation of the City of Rome;
In the forty-second year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus,
the whole world being at peace,

JESUS CHRIST, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man:

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

A Hymn in Procession – “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Hymnal #283

The Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie Eleison – “Lord, have mercy”

Celebrant

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

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

You came to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

People

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant

You came to call sinners: Christ have mercy.

People

Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant

You plead for us at the right hand of the Father: Lord, have mercy.

People

Lord, have mercy.

The Canticle

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

#289

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Celebrant

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

A Reading of Isaiah 9:2-7

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

The Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

People

Amen.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior’s birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People

Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People

(Sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Final Carol – “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hymnal #270

The Dismissal

Celebrant

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People

Thanks be to God!

The Candlelight Carol – “*Silent Night*” *The congregation’s candles are lit and then this hymn is sung.*

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep-herds quake at the sight.
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won-drous star, lend thy light;
Stil - le Nacht, hei - li-ge Nacht! Al - les schläft, ein - sam wacht

round yon vir - gin moth-er and child! Ho - ly In - fant so ten-der and mild,
 Glo - ry streams from heav-en a - far, heav-en-ly hosts sing “Al - le - lu - ia,
 ra - diant beams from Thy ho-ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our King;
nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar. Hold - er Kna - be im lock - i - gen Haar,

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

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A Carol – “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*”

Hymnal #279

A Reading of 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A Reading of the Gospel according to Luke 2:1-20

Celebrant Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Celebrant I proclaim to you good news of great joy:
 today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.

People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

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.

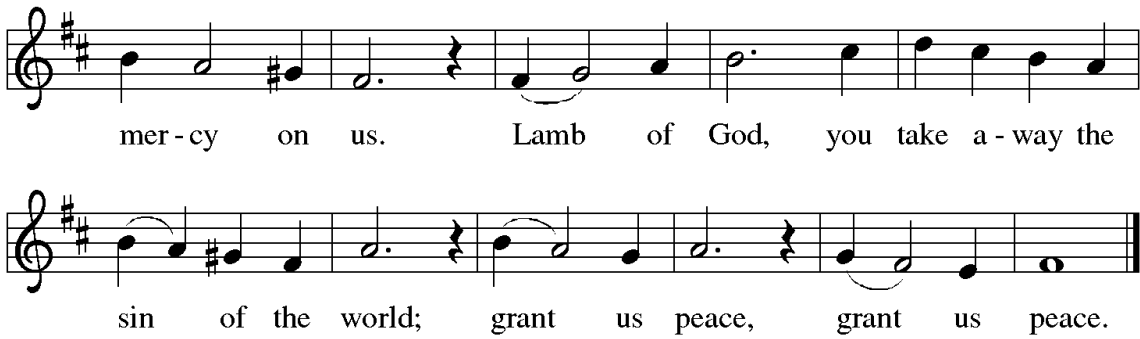
Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon *The Reverend Jonathon Moyers*

A Carol – *“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”* **Hymnal #282**

The Nicene Creed

The Celebrant and People together
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.



Invitation to Holy Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
 Happy are those who are called to his Supper.
People **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you. But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The Distribution of Holy Communion

In the Lutheran tradition, we invite all baptized persons to receive Holy Communion at the altar. We believe that in the Blessed Sacrament we receive the true Body and precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Please come forward as directed by the usher. If you are unable to come forward, the Celebrant will bring Holy Communion to you.

A Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit be glory both now and for ever. Amen.**

We ask you: remember the perfect and eternal sacrifice through which, in Christ, you have reconciled us with yourself. Grant that we may be united, with Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, and all the saints, into one body, and be made a perfect living sacrifice in Christ.

Through him, and with him, and in him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

People Amen.


The Lord’s Prayer

Celebrant Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:


The Celebrant and People together

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.

The Agnus Dei – Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

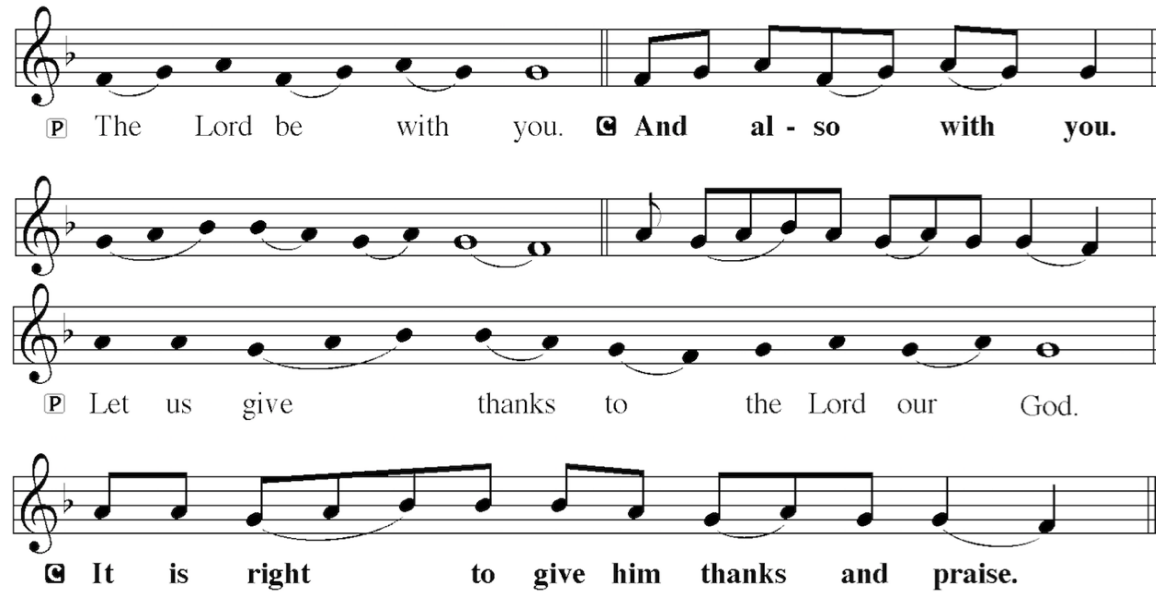
The Prayers of the People
(Response to each petition: “Hear our prayer.”)

The Offertory

The Offertory Prayer

<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.
<i>People</i>	Eternal God, with Mary we treasure the gift of your Son, and in our hearts we ponder the mystery of his birth. Receive these offerings, that our lives may declare the wonders of your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

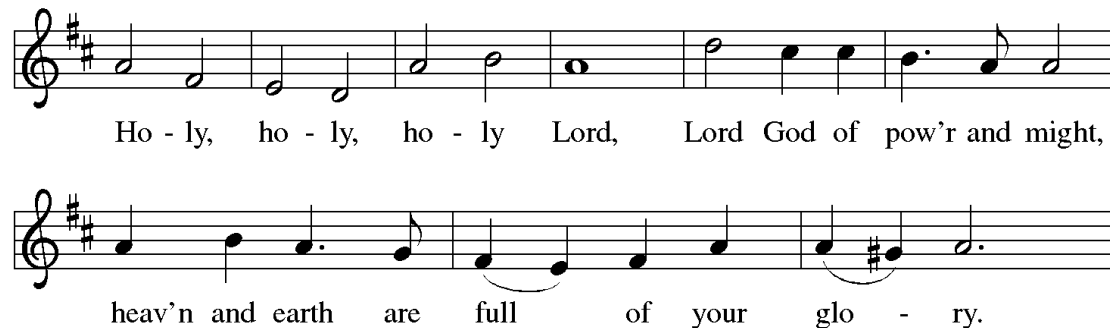
The Great Thanksgiving



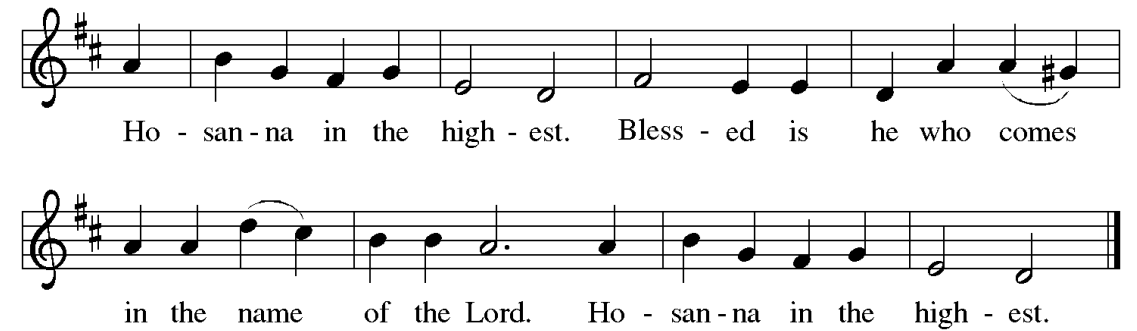
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. 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 angels and archangels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Celebrant and People together



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

The Celebrant continues

Praise be to you, Lord of heaven and earth. You have revealed your mercy towards your people in giving your only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through this holy child born in Bethlehem's manger.

Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

Therefore, heavenly Father, we celebrate this supper in remembrance of your Son's passion and death, his resurrection and ascension. We will eat the Bread of Life and drink the Cup of Blessing until the day when he comes again in glory.

Let your Holy Spirit come into our hearts to enlighten us with a living faith. Sanctify by your Spirit this bread and wine, which earth has given and human hands have made. Here we offer them to you, that through them we may partake of the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.