

THE CHILD GREW...
AND  THE
**FAVOR OF
GOD**
WAS UPON HIM.

LUKE 2:40

*First Sunday of
Christmas 12-27-2020*

PRELUDE

Triptych on BLANTYRE

That Boy-Child of Mary

I. Sesquialtera

Kristina Langlois

II. Hautbois

Aaron David Miller

III. Simply

Ronald A. Nelson

THE 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!**

CHRISTMAS LITANY

P: The people who walk 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: 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.**

THAT BOY-CHILD OF MARY

Refrain



That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,



a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.



- 1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?
- 2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,
- 3 How can he save us, how can he help us,
- 4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,

Refrain



What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?
God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.
born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?
makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

5 One with the Father,
he is our Savior,
heaven-sent helper
in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him,
love and adore him,
give ourselves to him
in Bethlehem.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000

Music: BLANTYRE, Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

A READING FROM ISAIAH 61:10—62:3

R: A reading from Isaiah the 61st chapter.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM GALATIANS 4:4-7

R: A reading from Galatians the 4th chapter:

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.



Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, mee - k, and



mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.



Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,



glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

Text: African American traditional, alt.
Music: WONDERFUL CHILD, African American traditional

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 2:22-40

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.

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

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” ⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came,

and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and

mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,

glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

Text: African American traditional, alt.
Music: WONDERFUL CHILD, African American traditional

WHAT CHILD IS THIS



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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

P: Glory to God in the highest,
C: **And peace to God's people on earth.**

P: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.
C: **Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

P: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.
C: **Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

P: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.
C: **Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.**
Amen.

ORGAN MEDITATION

Matthew H. Corl

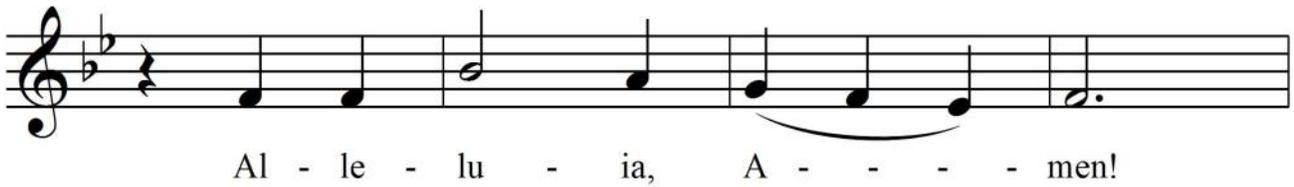
O Holy Night

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
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.**

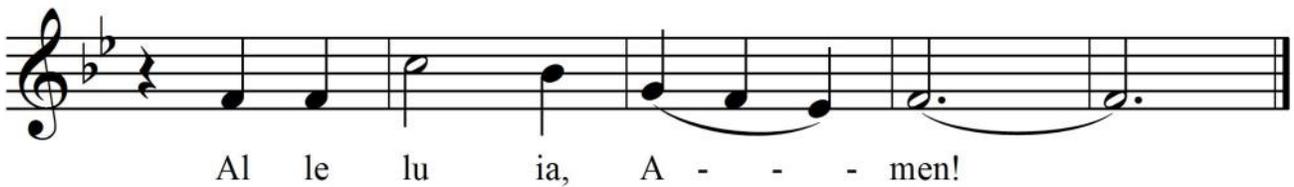
BLESSING

P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.



Al - le - lu - ia, A - - - - men!

The first line of musical notation is on a single staff in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, A - - - - men!' are written below the staff, with a long horizontal line under 'A' indicating a sustained note.



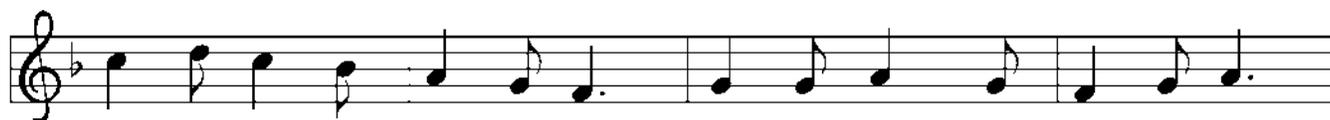
Al le lu ia, A - - - - men!

The second line of musical notation is on a single staff in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics 'Al le lu ia, A - - - - men!' are written below the staff, with a long horizontal line under 'A' indicating a sustained note.

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS



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!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

DISMISSAL

P: We go in peace. For Christ is with us!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Johann Sebastian Bach

IN DULCI JUBILO, S.608

Many thanks to our Cantor,
Victor Welsch.

THANK YOU to Gracie Chester for serving as today's Lector.

We are still accepting Thanksoffering gifts.
They can be mailed or brought to the Church Office.

Please note that it has been decided that the date of
the Annual Congregational Meeting will be moved to
January 31st. Hopefully, by that time, we may be
back to an orange level.

Many Thanks to Wendy and John Bailey for their faithful service
as our camera/Facebook Live and slideshow technicians. Thanks
also to all who serve as Lectors, Hosts, and stand-by technicians
for our worship
services.



*Drive-Thru Communion will take
place NEXT SUNDAY, January 3rd be-
ginning at 11:30 and continuing for
one hour.*

Please enter from the parking lot and
drive into the south side driveway.
Stop under the portico to receive the
sacrament.

Poinsettia Dedications

Bonnie & Mike Oberlander in loving memory of Bonnie's parents,
Wayne & Mary Shaferly.

Beth & Jack Myers in loving memory of our parents.

Jan & Blake Grangaard in honor of their Grandchildren.

Pat Rathburn and Family in loving memory of Hugh Rathburn.

Vera & Harry Smith in honor of their Grandchildren.

Deb & Dick Hohnman and Family in loving memory of
Paul, Kathleen, Sharon & Tommy Winters.

Deb & Dick Hohnman in loving memory of Phil & Ruth Boyer.

Judy & Don May in honor of our Children and Grandchildren.

Cheryl Staib-Lewis in honor of those who have kept the church and
pre-school safe and clean for everyone.

Jennifer Binkley in honor of Richard & Diane Greene.

*Jeff & Fran Smith, Alice Smith & Duane Seiling and
Joy & Dan Stevens* in loving memory of Maurice & Pauline Smith.

Jeff Smith, Alice Smith and Joy Stevens in loving memory of
Randy Smith. Miss You Bro!

Parents, Ron & Mellott and Sisters, Diane & Jennifer in loving
memory of Greg Mellott.

Daughters: Sue, Sandy, Linda and Carol in loving memory of
Bob & Bea Brill.

Ann Koning in loving memory of Clarence, Jane & Mark Assenheimer.

Ann Koning in loving memory of
John Brueggemeier,
Margaret Marshall,
Kristi Loy-Hetzel
Louise Scaife.

Pat & Ray Wise in honor of:

The Hemant Bhagat Family.
The Bailey Family.

In loving memory of:

Pat's parents, Florence & Bill Heiland.

In loving memory of:

Ray's parents, Bertina & Harry Wise and his
sisters & brothers.

James Zellner in loving memory of Patricia & William Zellner.

Diane & Rick Greene in loving memory of Paul & Esther Greene and
Alvin & Wilma Zachrich.

In honor of our children Jennifer, David, Julie, Heather & Andrew.

Jim, Shelley, Michael & Zachary Ross in loving memory of

Barb Rutherford
Harry Beregsasi
Ruth & Arden Bruns.

In honor of Pastor Bailey, Wendy, John & Andrew.

Linda & Richard Ellinger in loving memory of

Everette Margene Ellinger and Richard & Ruth Heil.

Pastor, CJ, Wendy, John & Andrew Bailey in honor of
The Congregation of First Lutheran.

Pastor CJ and Wendy in honor of John & Andrew Bailey.

Curtis L. King in loving memory of:

Oliver Junior King

Lisa T. King

In honor of:

Senior Choir

Bells of Praise

Victor Welsch

Luella F. King

Sandy Maistros in loving memory of John & Andy Maistros.

Dustin, Lori, Caden, Carter & Claire Groves in loving memory of
Richard D. Groves.

Pat & Jim Fckelberry in honor of all the front-line workers during this
pandemic.

Janet & Joe Zirger and Becky & Lynn Sherman in loving
memory of Pauline & Eldon Sherman.

Given by Your Loving Family in memory of:

Mary & Lawrence Miller,

Charles, Larry, Louise, Patricia.

Bill Owens

Given by Daughters Judy, Janis & Josi in loving memory of
Franklin & Marion Snyder.

Ruth Ferner Scott in honor of those of us who survived 2020 and in
loving memory of those not here to celebrate with us.

Donna, Kelli, Amy, Julie and grandchildren in loving memory of
John Brueggemeier.

Kim, Kelsey and Brad in loving memory of Bob Ames.

Kim, Kelsey and Brad in loving memory of Baby Elisha Robert.

The Church Staff, Geri Wilson & Ann Koning in loving memory
of Joe Wott and his many years of service to First Lutheran.

Joseph Carnahan in loving memory of Ethel Carnahan.

Vicky & Ronald Clouse in loving memory of:

Clayson Loy
Irene Loy
Kristi Loy-Hetzel

Jeanette Conley in honor of Pastor Bailey and his family and the Office
Staff who faithfully continue to work to keep the everything running
smoothly in the Church Office.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



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CLAYTON J. BAILEY

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Director of Music:
CURTIS L. KING

"God is among us!"
"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive,
reconcile and trust God for all that we need."