

First Sunday of Christmas

12-26-2021

First Lutheran Church



PRELUDE

Gilbert M. Martin

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

I. In Dulci Jubilo

II. Puer Nobis Nascitur

III. Wassail Carol

Char Pope, Piano; Curtis L. King, organ

Please stand.

CHRISTMAS LITANY

P: Who are these angels who come to earth,

C: Bearing the news of the Christ child's birth?

P: Who are the shepherds who run to see,

C: And worship the babe on bended knee?

P: Who is this child, so small and slight,

C: Of whom the angels sang that night?

P: Who is this king, a manger his throne,

C: Who humbles himself to make us his own?

P: Who is this God who sends a Son?

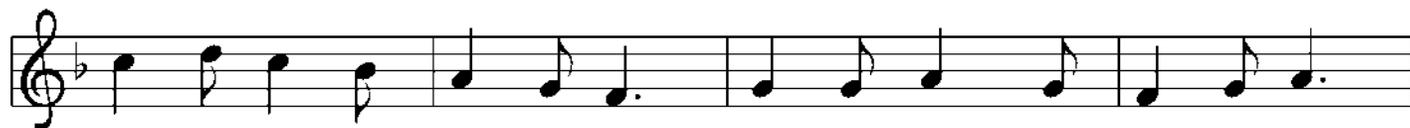
C: Into our midst is God's chosen promised one!

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

ELW 288



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.

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!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS AND BLESSING OF THE NATIVITY

THE PRAYER OF MARY

WHAT CHILD IS THIS ELW 296

Verse 1

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping.

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

THE PRAYER OF THE DONKEY

I WONDER AS I WANDER

Verse 1

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus, the Saviour, did come for to die.
For poor, ornery people like you and like I
I wonder as I wander
Out under the sky.

THE PRAYER OF THE INNKEEPER

AWAY IN A MANGER ***ELW 278***

Verse 1

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

THE PRAYER OF JOSEPH

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN ELW 295

Verse 1

Of the Father's love begotten, Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are and have been, And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.

THE PRAYER OF THE STAR

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL ELW 283

Verse 2

O Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all that hear in heaven God's holy word.
Give to our Father glory in the Highest;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord

THE PRAYER OF THE 1ST WISEMAN

THE FIRST NOEL ELW 300

Verse 3

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

PRAYER OF THE 2ND WISEMAN

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE WOV 646

Verse 1

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

PRAYER OF THE 3RD WISEMAN

***ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY
ELW 275***

Verse 3

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;

seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star.

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King

THE PRAYER OF THE ANGEL

***ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH
ELW 289***

Verse 1

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

Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

***LO, HOW A ROSE IS GROWING
LBW 58***

Verse 3

The shepherds heard the story the angels sang that night:
how Christ was born of Mary; he was the Son of light.
To Bethlehem they ran to find him in the manger
as angel heralds sang.

THE PRAYER OF THE LAMB

***AWAY IN A MANGER
ELW 277***

Verse 2

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus;
Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHRIST CHILD

Please stand.

JESUS, WHAT A WONDERFUL CHILD *ELW 297*



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

A READING OF THE GOSPEL JOHN 1: 1-14

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. John the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

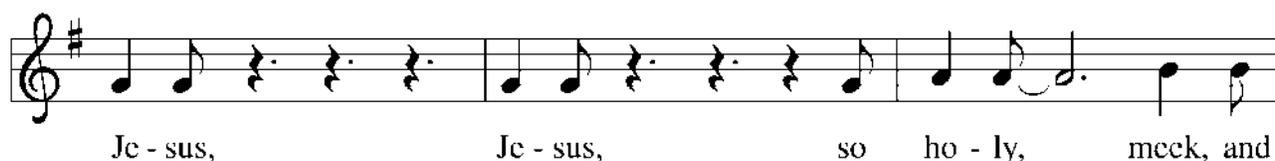
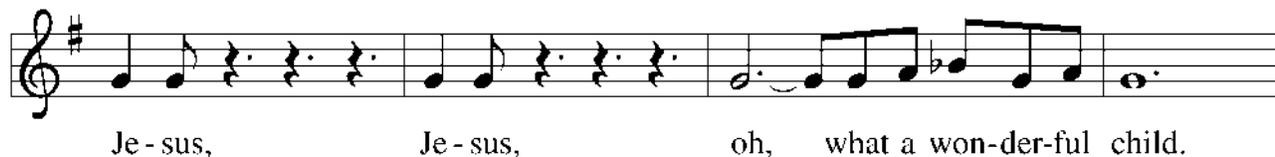
¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

JESUS, WHAT A WONDERFUL CHILD

ELW 297



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

THE CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith expressed through the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, you come from heaven above into the midst of our world.

C: Fill our hearts with the joy of the angels at your birth.

P: You come from heaven above to the lowliest of human conditions.

C: Watch over those in need, the sick, the hungry, the grieving.

P: You come from heaven above to walk the way of the cross.

C: Guide us to follow your path of forgiveness, mercy, and peace.

P: You come from heaven above to become flesh and live among us.

C: **May we see your glory, full of grace and truth. Amen.**

Please be seated.

ORGAN MEDITATION & OFFERING

George F. Handel

John Innis

MESSIAH

For Unto Us a Child Is Born

Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY **ELW 276**



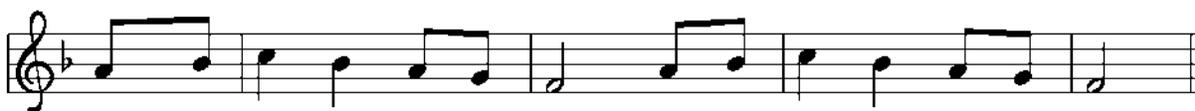
1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The people who walked in darkness

C: Have seen a great light!

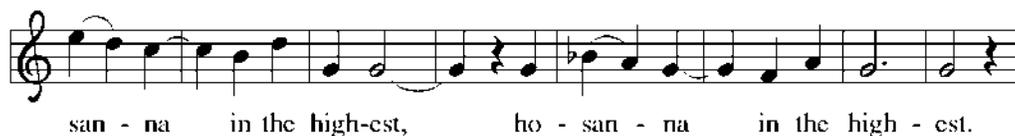
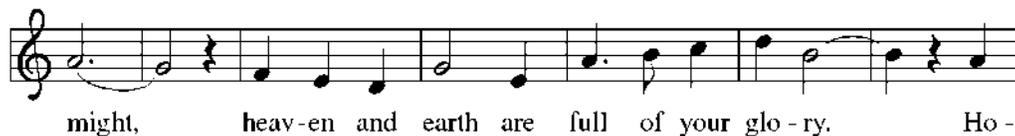
P: Those who lived in the land of deep darkness

C: On them light has shined.

THE CHRISTMAS PREFACE

P: God's light has indeed shined upon us and it is 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:

SANCTUS



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, our eternal light and life:
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take
and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all
to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for
you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remem-
ber me.

P: Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again!**

P: Fill us with your Light and Life, May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Bring the gift of peace on earth. For all praise
and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.**

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come see what God has made known to us!

At this time, you may open your communion cup and feast on the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Together we break bread and lift the cup!

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **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.

C:



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

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

Please stand.

ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT

ELW 274

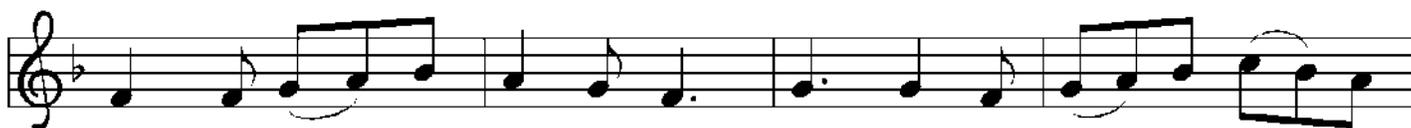
Please stand.



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the
 2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-deem-er
 3 When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then life and health come
 4 All out of dark-ness we have light, which made the an-gels



an-gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to
 made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since
 in its place. When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then
 sing this night. All out of dark-ness we have light, which



hear the news the an-gels bring: news of great joy, news of great
 our re-deem-er made us glad, when from our sin he set us
 life and health come in its place. An-gels re-joice with us and
 made the an-gels sing this night: "Glo-ry to God in high-est



mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.
 free, all for to gain our lib-er-ty?
 sing, all for to see the new-born king.
 heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.
 Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

G.F. Handel
Joel Raney

ANTIOCH

Joy to the World

Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

Today's Worship Leaders

<i>Cantor:</i>	<i>Victor Welsch</i>	<i>Facebook Camera:</i>	<i>Wendy Bailey</i>
<i>Host:</i>	<i>?</i>	<i>SlideShow Creator:</i>	<i>Pastor Bailey</i>
<i>Lector:</i>	<i>?</i>	<i>SlideShow Operator:</i>	<i>John Bailey</i> <i>Haley Welter</i>
<i>Director of Music:</i>	<i>Curtis L. King</i>	<i>Today's Officiant:</i>	<i>Pastor Bailey</i>
<i>Guest Pianist:</i>	<i>Char Pope</i>		

We could not offer multiple platforms for sharing worship
"Apart...yet Together"
without an entire crew of people working to make the magic happen.
THANK YOU!

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."