



December 8, 2024

Youth Christmas Worship

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Bell Choir

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”

The Beginning

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

John 1:1-3

Let there be light!

Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.

Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.

Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.

Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.

Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.

Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.

Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

Genesis 1:3ff.

The Fall

Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat? What is this that you have done?

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:7ff.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Opening Hymn

“Joy to the World”

♪ Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

♪ Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

♪ No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

♪ He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 387-Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748; Tune: George Frideric Handel 1685-1759;
Setting: Lowell Mason 1792-1872; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

The Word in Flesh

Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you! Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever and of His kingdom there will be no end.

How will this be?

The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will come overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

Luke 1:28-35

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Mary's Song

“Breath of Heaven”

The Birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, To be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Luke 2:1-7

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Joseph's Song

“Mary Did You Know?”

Hymn

“Away in a Manger”

♪ 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 on the hay.

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

♪ Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 364-Text: Little Children's Book, Philadelphia 1885, vv. 1-2; Vineyard Songs, Louisville 1892, v.3
Tune: James R. Murray 1841-1905; setting: Joseph Herl b.1959; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

The Shepherds

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

Luke 2:8-9

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

♪ 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.

♪ 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!

♪ How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n. No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.

♪ 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;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 361 -Text: Phillips Brooks 1835-93; Tune: Lewis H. Redner 1831-1908;
Setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

The Angel

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:10-12

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Hymn

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

♪ Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
~Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

♪ Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th' incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! ~Hark!...

♪ Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,

Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. ~Hark!....

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 380 -Text: Charles Wesley 1707-88; Tune: Felix Mendelssohn 1809-47;
Setting: William H. Cummings 1831-1915; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

The Angels

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Luke 2:13-14

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Hymn

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

♪ Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

~Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo. Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo.

♪ Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? ~Glo-ria...

♪ Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. ~Glo-ria....

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 368-Text: French, tr. The Crown of Jesus, Part 2, London 1862
Tune: French, setting: Edward S. Barnes 1887-1958; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Let Us Go

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

Luke 2:15-18

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

♪ 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:

~O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

♪ Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;

Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! ~O come,...

♪ Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God In the highest: ~O come,...

♪ Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!

Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing! ~O come,....

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 379-Text & Tune: John F. Wade c.1711-86; tr. Frederick Oakeley 1802-80;
Setting: The Hymnal 1940; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Pondering

But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Luke 2:19–20

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Hymn

“What Child Is This”

- ♪ 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!
- ♪ Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!
- ♪ So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 370-Text: William C. Dix 1837-98; Tune: English 16th cent.;
Setting: John Stainer 1840-1901; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

The Crucifixion

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Luke 23:33–34

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The Resurrection *Please Be Seated*

Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.

Luke 24:5b–7

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Closing Hymn

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

- ♪ 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 Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 363-Text: Franz Joseph Mohr 1792-1848; tr. John F. Young 1820-85;
Tune: Franz Xavier Gruber 1787-1863; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Postlude

Bell Choir

“Christmas”