



Christmas Day Festival

*A Savior Born to Dwell
Among Us*



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran

Church • School • Preschool

www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com
Pastor Michael Kampman
Pastor Elijah Ehlert

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Welcome to Worship

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we — the pastors and members of St. Paul's! For centuries on Christmas Day the Church has read chapter one of St. John's Gospel. There, in just a few simple words, Scripture describes the indescribable: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). The word God had spoken in the Garden, promising to send a Savior who was part of mankind, came true. God himself became flesh and blood—to be born under law, to suffer, and to die that he might redeem us.

For Your Convenience

For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out in the following pages. If a song is not found in this worship folder, it can be found in the blue hymnal located in the rack in front of you. Lutheran worship is specifically designed to include the participation of the assembly. Congregational text is marked in **bold**.

If you are in need of **restrooms**, they are located at the back of the Church to your right as you exit through the doors. Also on the right is our **Child Training Room**, where the sound from the service is fed into, as well as dimmable lights and a privacy shade.

Large Print Service Folders and Hearing Loop Listeners are provided should you need them. They are located on the information center nearest the sanctuary in the Narthex. Should hearing aid have a t-coil, please turn it on, and they should receive sound directly without a loop listener.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister

Pastor Michael Kampman

Preaching Minister

Pastor Elijah Ehlert

Choir Director

Kathy Thurow

Handchimes Director

Becky Miller

Organist

Will Hinn

Instrumentalists

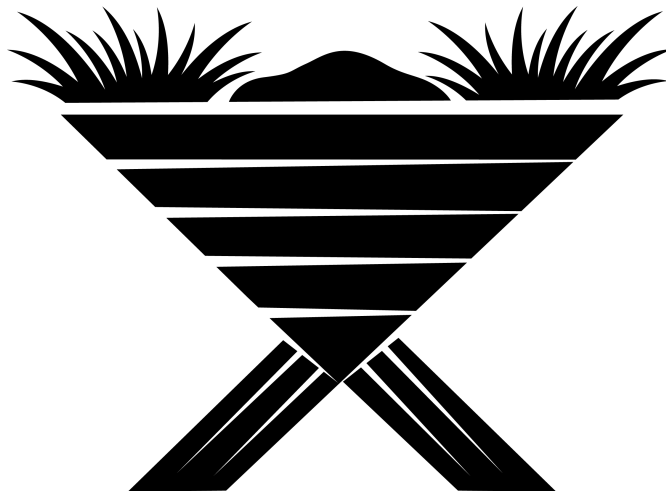
Wendy Holmes, Flute

Kaitlyn Kampman, Clarinet

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Opening Bells

Christmas Bell Suite

Arranged by John A. Behnke
Performed by the St. Paul's Handchime Choir

Opening Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful — 354

Please stand for the final stanza



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come_ ye to Beth - le - hem!
born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes!
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee_ be all glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:
On - ly - be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther:
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Dialogue of Praise

In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The time has come. The time we have prepared for has arrived. The Father has sent his greatest blessing, his only Son, born by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In his name we begin our worship.

In the beginning, God made the heavens and the earth.

We gather to worship our Creator.

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman.

We gather to worship our newborn King.

The Christ child grew in time and fulfilled his mission when he rose from the dead.

We gather to worship our risen Lord.

Our Savior came as a baby and will come again in glory.

The time will come. We will wait for his return.

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

Glory to God in the Highest! Alleluia!

Gloria

Angels We Have Heard on High — 346

The Gloria in Excelsis (Latin for “Glory [to God] in the highest”) has been the traditional song of praise sung at the beginning of Christian services for centuries. This hymn quotes the opening words of the Gloria, the same words that the angels first sang on Christmas night.

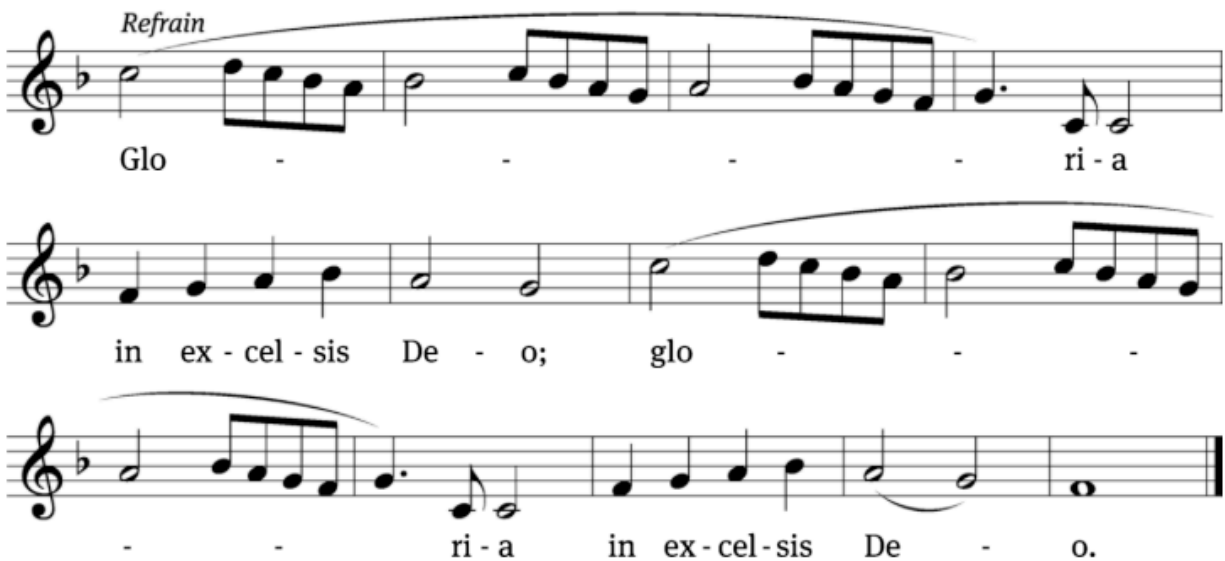


- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad-some ti - dings be which in-spire your heav'n-ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain (following page)



Prayer of the Day

We pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷ How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" ⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. ⁹ Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

Anthem of Praise

All Christians Now Rejoice
Sung by the St. Paul's Choir

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-9

¹ In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. ³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. ⁴ So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? ⁶ And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷ In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire." ⁸ But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

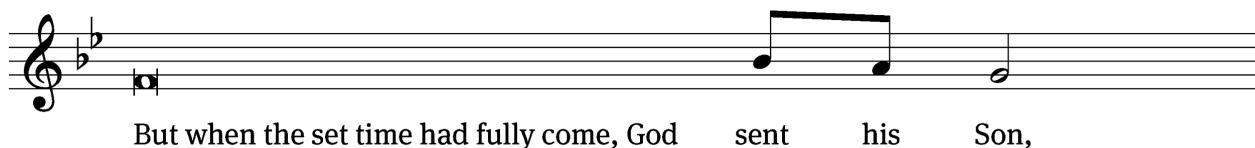
Galatians 4:4-5a



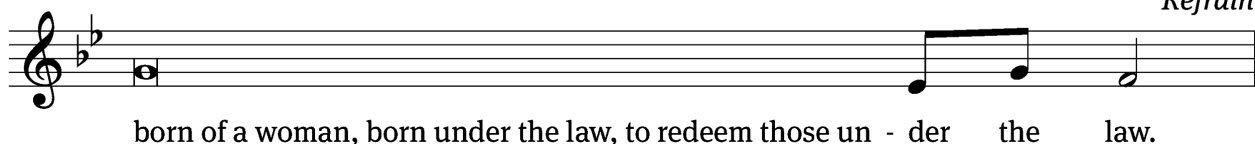
Refrain



Tone



Refrain



Gospel Reading

John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Be seated



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers and sa - ges sang of old with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him, an - gel hosts his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing, pow'rs, do - min - ions bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he,
 bore the Sav - ior of our race,
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word.
 and ex - tol our God and King.
 and un - end - ing prais - es be,



of the things that are, that have been,
 and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er,
 Now he shines, the long - ex - pect - ed;
 Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,
 hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion



and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 first re - vealed his sa - cred face ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 let cre - a - tion praise its Lord ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

The Tragedy of Christmas

Confession of Faith

Excerpts from the Athanasian Creed

Now this is the true Christian faith. It is necessary for eternal salvation truly to believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh. We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh, equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity; and though he is both God and man, Christ is not two persons, but one. One, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God; one, indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person; for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being, so God and man are one Christ.

He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, and from there will come to judge the living and the dead. This is the true Christian faith.

Be seated

Offering

Mary's Little Boy Child
Musical performance by St. Paul's musicians

Stand

Prayer of the Church and Lord's Prayer

On this holy day, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your

prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

Unto us a child is born! Unto us a Son is given!

What a great mystery of our faith this is: that God has become fully human for our salvation! Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.

In the midst of our joy, we grieve for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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.

Be seated



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
 2 From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
 3 "Fear not," then said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;
 4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ, our Sav - ior, was born on Christ - mas Day
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the same,
 this day is born a Sav - ior, the true and ra - diant light,
 and in true love and fel - low - ship each oth - er now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray.
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
 to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
 this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas is filled with heav'n - ly grace.



Refrain
 O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,



O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

Stand

Blessing

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Remain standing

Closing Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing — 350



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav'n - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness!



peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of a vir-gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na-tions rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, hail th'in-car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le - hem!"
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im-man-u - el!
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec-ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"