



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

"GOD'S SALVATION STORY"

There are lots of stories in the Bible, but all the stories are telling one Big Story. The Story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them. It takes the whole Bible to tell this Story. And at the center of the Story, there is a baby. Every Story in the Bible whispers his name. He is like the missing piece in a puzzle - the piece that makes all the other pieces fit together, and suddenly you can see a beautiful picture (The Jesus Storybook Bible).

+ THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE AT 5:00 P.M. +

THE CALL TO WORSHIP



(As the bells ring, please stand and turn to face the processional cross.)

Leader: When the eternal God decided to enter human history in the person of His Son, He revealed that His plans turn the world's ways upside down. The Son of royal David, the One who fulfilled the promises to Abraham, the One who welcomes scandal-ridden sinners into His family, the One who remembers common people but forgets their sins, is born as the Son of Mary, laid in a manger, a borrowed feeding trough. Come and adore Him. The Christ Child was born for you!

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God,

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: Who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: And 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 1:1-5, 9-14).

People: Glory to God in the highest!



Glory to
God
in the
highest.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Hymn 379

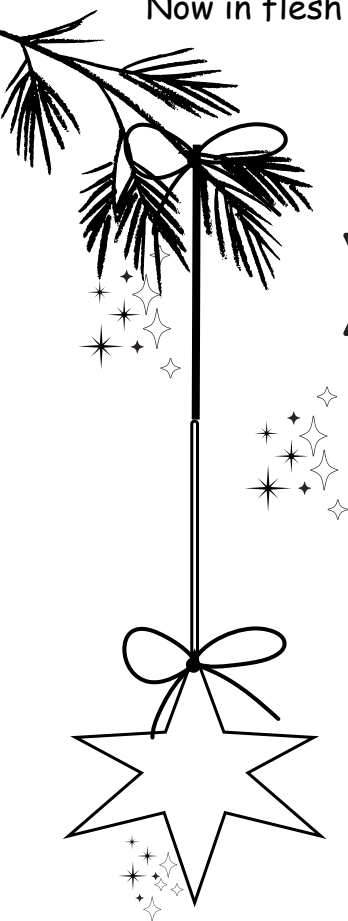
1 O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels:

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

2 Highest, most holy,
Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: Refrain

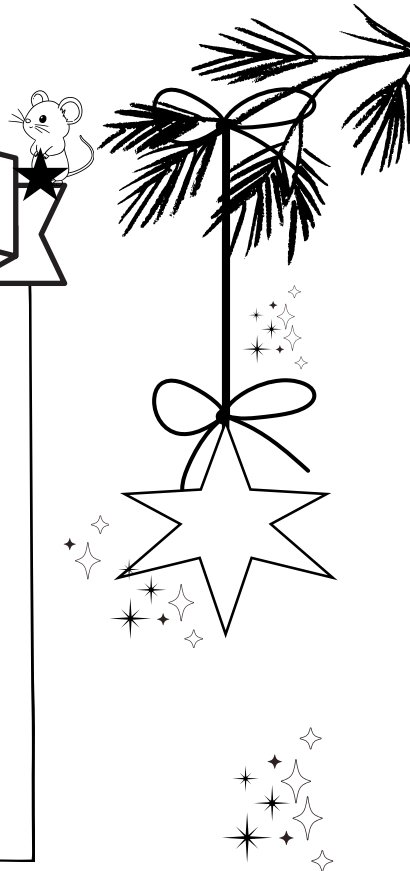
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain



THE INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit, we come this night rejoicing in the gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.

People: We come on this night of joy, confessing our sins to the Infant King, knowing of His forgiveness. We glory in the birth of the Christ Child, since He was born to die and rise again for us. We ask for the blessings of God upon our worship, in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. Amen.



THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION



Leader: Lord God, heavenly Father,

People: I confess to You that I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. I acknowledge my sinfulness; I am aware of my hopelessness without You. Therefore, I come before You seeking Your grace and forgiveness for the sake of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, my Lord. Forgive me, O Lord; grant me Your blessings, and help me to live a life pleasing to You. Amen.

Leader: Upon this your confession, I as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

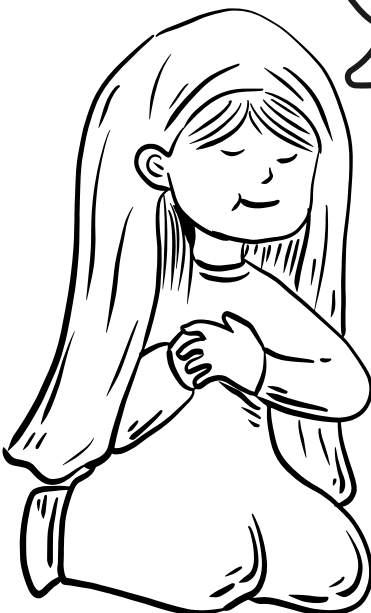
Behold

THE ANNUNCIATION

THE SCRIPTURE
READING:

LUKE 1:26-38

*“Behold, I am the servant
of the Lord; let it be to me
according to your word.”*



THE REFLECTION

Pastor Sheaffer

THE HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Vs. 1-3, and 7)

Hymn 357

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain



Refrain:
**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law In
cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Refrain

THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

THE SCRIPTURE
READING:
LUKE 2:1-5

*And all went to be
registered, each to
his own town.*



THE REFLECTION

Pastor Eggold

THE HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Hymn 361

1 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.

2 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!

3 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.

4 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!



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

THE SCRIPTURE
READING:
LUKE 2:6-7

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.

THE HYMN: "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Hymn 363

1 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.

2 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!

3 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.



THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ANGELS

THE SCRIPTURE
READING:
LUKE 2:8-14

*"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those
with whom he is pleased!"*




THE REFLECTION

THE HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Pastor Eggold

Hymn 380

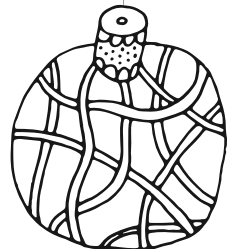
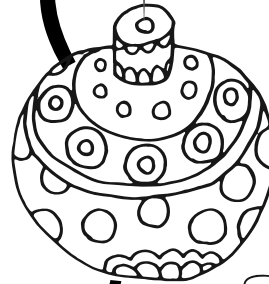


1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the_angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

**Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

2 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 the_incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!
Refrain

3 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.
Refrain



THE ADORATION AND JOY OF THE SHEPHERDS

THE SCRIPTURE
READING:
LUKE 2:15-20

*And the shepherds returned,
glorifying and praising God for all
they had heard and seen, as it had
been told them.*



THE REFLECTION

Pastor Sheaffer

THE HYMN: "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Hymn 388

Refrain: **Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain

3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain



THE GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

During the offering, please take the binder located at the end of each pew, and fill out the appropriate info. We encourage members to greet our visitors at the end of the service.



THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Please stand, as you are able)

Leader: We come to You, O Lord, remembering how You gave us the unmistakable sign of Your love by sending Your only Son to be born of a virgin in our own flesh and blood. Hear us, then, for the sake of Christ, as we pray for Your Church, for all people according to their needs, and for ourselves. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for Your Church, O Lord, that it may be the sign of Christ to the world through Your Word proclaimed and Holy Sacraments given in Your name. Make Your Church a place of welcome where everyone is invited to know the Lord and rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We recall before You the many for whom this night is no different than any other night, those who have not heard the good news the angels sang and the shepherds heard. Use us to share with others the Gospel of Jesus Christ that we may speak hope and life in His name. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for ourselves and our celebration of our Savior's birth, that the mystery of the Word made flesh may be central in all we say and do. Bless our family celebrations, those who travel, and our sharing of gifts in remembrance of Your gift of Jesus Christ. Make us mindful of those in poverty and need, the lonely and sorrowful, and guide us to use Your abundant gifts to touch their lives with joy. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: These and all things useful to us and profitable to our salvation, we pray You to grant us, O Lord, for the sake of and in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 that 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 for ever and ever. Amen.



THE BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen! Glory to God in the highest! And peace to His people on earth!



THE CLOSING HYMN: "Joy to the World"

Hymn 387

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

4 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.

