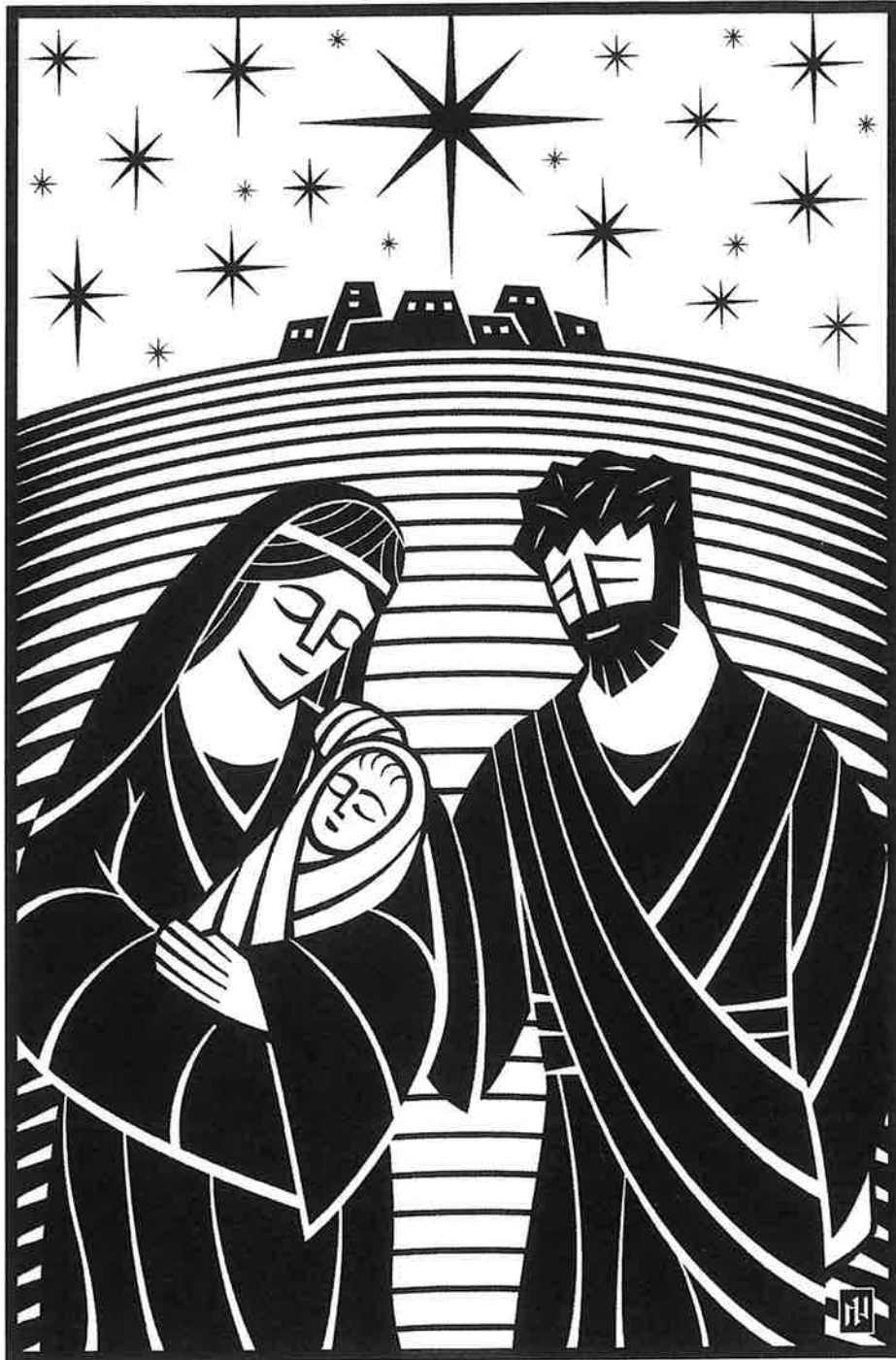


Christmas Eve

Divine Worship at 7:00 p.m.



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

917 West Jefferson Boulevard, Fort Wayne, IN 46802
Phone: 260/423-1369 Website: www.emmanuel Lutheran.org

“A Savior Has Been Born to You”

AS WE GATHER

We often see Christmas as a time for us to “go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us” (Luke 2:15). Yet, Christmas is not about our going to God, it is about His coming to us in the person of our Savior, Jesus. Now, in awe of His great mercy and grace, we are able to go and proclaim the news of God’s peace coming to earth.

+ THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE AT 7:00 P.M. +

THE PRE-SERVICE MUSIC: “Nativity Carol”

Choir

Selections for Christmas Eve

“Son of God, Which Christmas Is It?”

Choir

“Carillon on ‘Forest Green’”

Orchestra

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

(Please stand, as you are able, and face the processional cross)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

People: On those living in the land of deep darkness, a light has dawned.

Leader: For the Lord has comforted his people.

People: He has had compassion on the afflicted.

Leader: Sing for joy, O heavens! Exult, O earth!

People: Break forth, O mountains, into singing!

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Hymn 379

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 and 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 OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray. Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have answered the cries of your people. Shine your light into our darkness, call us out of captivity, and lead us into the joy of your presence. Through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God our Father.

People: We confess that we live in darkness and cannot free ourselves. We are captive to fear, shame, sin, and death. We doubt your compassion and question whether you hear our cries. Forgive us, Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection)

Leader: Hear the good news. The Lord has heard your cries. In the birth of Christ, your salvation has come. He calls you out of darkness into his marvelous light. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE CAROL: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

1. From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:

2. (Choir) To you this night is born a
Child Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

3. This is the Christ, our God Most
High, Who hears your sad and bitter
cry; He will Himself your Savior be.
From all your sins to set you free.

4. (Women) He will on you the gifts
bestow Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us His glory share.

5. (Men) These are the signs that you
shall mark: The swaddling clothes
and manger dark. There you will find
the infant laid.

6. (Choir) Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make thee a bed soft undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for thee.

7. How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us His own dear Son.

8. (Choir) Glory to God in highest heav'n
Who unto us his Son hath giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

(Please stand as able)

THE RESPONSORY (Isaiah 49)

Leader: Thus says the Lord, "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you."

People God has heard our cries and come to our aid.

Leader: "To the prisoners I say, 'Come out,' to those in darkness, 'Appear.'"

People Christ has called us into his marvelous light.

Leader: "They shall not hunger or thirst... for he who has pity on them will lead them."

People Christ is our Shepherd, guiding us by springs of water.

Leader: "Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth!"

People For the Lord has comforted his people and had compassion on his afflicted. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: Thus says the Lord, "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you."

THE COLLECT

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray:

People Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world, you have entered our darkness and answered our cries. Free us from captivity, forgive our sins, and lead us with joy into your eternal home. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE CAROL: "Sussex Carol"

Choir

PART ONE

THE SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to his own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

THE CAROL: "What Child Is This?"
(Choir sings verse 2)

Hymn 370

PART TWO

THE SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:8-12

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: You shall find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

THE ARIOSO: Luke 2:13

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:

THE CHORUS: Luke 2:14

Choir

"Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will toward men."

This chorus is from part one of Handel's Messiah, which contains prophecies and accounts of Christ's birth. This chorus is preceded by a series of recitatives and ariosos (short songs) for soloists. These solos are used for narratives or dramatic moments in the Messiah.

(Please be seated)

THE CAROL: "Angels We Have Heard on High"
(Choir sings verse 2)

Hymn 368

PART THREE

THE SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:15-16

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

THE CAROL: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Hymn 366

PART FOUR

THE SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:17-20

¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered

them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

THE HYMN: "Silent Night"

Hymn 363

(Please stand as able)

THE CHRISTMAS CREED (Spoken together)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, who sent His Son as my Savior on Christmas Day!

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, announced by the angels, worshipped by the wisemen, who lived to suffer, die, and rise again, to free us from sin, death and the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas and by whose continuous work in my heart, I am ever led to lay before the feet of Christ the treasures of my love and live under Him as my King, both now and forevermore. Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Hymn 361

(Women sing verse 2; Men sing verse 3)

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Pastor Dan Sheaffer

THE GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

THE VOLUNTARY: "Angels Advent Carol"

Choir

(Please stand, as you are able)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 (Spoken together)

During the Lord's Prayer, the church bell tolls three times to encourage those outside the sanctuary to join with the church in corporate prayer.

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: May the Light of Christ shine in your darkness. May the love of God comfort your hearts. May the Spirit of joy fill you until the day we see him face to face.

People: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Leader: Proclaim the birth of our Savior and Lord and go in Christmas peace.

People: Thanks be to God!

THE CLOSING HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hymn 380

THE POSTLUDE

SERVING

Acolyte	Lincoln Stout
Organ	Myra Schmidt
Choir Director	Matt Johnston
Orchestra	Anna Snodgrass, Brian Snodgrass, Maria Snodgrass, Rochelle Linnemeier, Michelle Hoffman, Eleanor Johnston, Dan Helton, Rachel Corwin, Steve Hahn, Craig Dahlkamp, Ryan Bowland, Jeanine Tietz, Amaya Tietz, Isaiah Tietz, Brent Bejot, Jaeger Wedeven, Carolyn Meyer, Will Stanley, Cara Wentland, Colleen Phillips, Chris Minning, Rod Sroufe
Usher Crew	John Wright, Chuck Karrick
Altar Guild	Tammy Bair, JoAnn Bender, LuAnn Bender, Tina Bruce
Audio	Mike Milholland



**The staff of Emmanuel wishes each of you a
Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!**

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

917 West Jefferson Blvd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46802
Ph: 260.423.1369 Web: www.emmanuelutheran.org

O Come, All Ye Faithful

379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of 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, a mor - tal He comes;
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



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



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

Text and tune: Public domain

What Child Is This

370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
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 and tune: Public domain

Angels We Have Heard on High

368



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 tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav' - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Glo



ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text and tune: Public domain

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

366



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un - furled,
3 All you, be - neath your heav - y load, By care and guilt bent low,
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.
Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:
When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing,
Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come swift - ly on the wing,
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an - cient prom - ise bring,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an - gels sing.
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

Silent Night, Holy Night

363



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
Heav'n - ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Tune and text: Public domain

O Little Town of Bethlehem

361



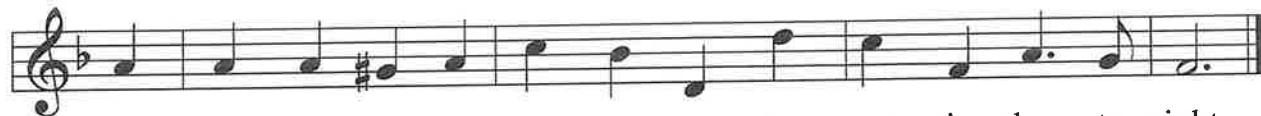
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
 Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

380



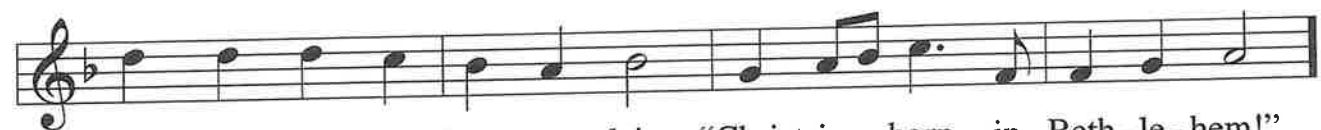
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



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 the in-car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the 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!"