



A Place to Belong

A Place **to Become**

AS WE GATHER: More than two thousand years later, the miraculous circumstances of Christ's birth still astound us; yet everything from that night—the shepherds and the angels, the star and the wise men, the virgin birth in a stable—remains in the shadow of the Child Himself. In one incredible moment, God reunited Creator and created. His perfect plan appeared in the flesh, becoming the cornerstone of human-kind's redemption.



Pastor: Steve Albertin

Music: Sounds of Glory; David Moscrip, Director



We invite you to join us Sundays. We have an Education hour for all ages at 9:00 (beginning again January 7) with a Blended Worship at 10:00 am. Holy Communion is offered every Sunday. Nursery Care is available at 10:00 am.

*Thank you for joining us this afternoon
as we celebrate the Birth of our Savior!*

*King of Glory Lutheran Church
December 24, 2023
4:00 p.m.*

It's A Chrismon Tree ... Not A Christmas Tree Standing the sanctuary is the Chrismon tree. Unlike the Christmas tree, which is decorated with a variety of colored lights and holiday symbols, both sacred and secular, the Chrismon tree is specifically decorated in symbols that reflect Christ and the meaning of his birth. All the colors are gold and white, the colors in the Christian Church Year dedicated to the season of Christmas. Therefore, the name Chrismon tree, a tree covered with symbols of Christ, Christ monograms, Chrismons.

PRESERVICE "The Christmas Scale"

The congregation stands.

CAROL Joy to the World ELW 267

**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!**

**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!**

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

P We're here to celebrate the birth of Jesus, God's own Son.

C Because He loves us!

P Jesus came to fulfill the promises God made to His people.

C Because He loves us!

P Jesus taught the people about the love of God, our Father.

C Because He loves us!

P Jesus died on a cross for our sin.

C Because He loves us!

P Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life.

C Because He loves us!

P We are free, redeemed children of God.

C Because He loves us!

P: We can now love God and love others.

C Because He loves us!

P Thank you, God, for sending Jesus as our Christmas surprise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and adore 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!**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
 Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
 Glory to God...in the highest;
 O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

CHRISTMAS LITANY

P We are so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus' birth!
C Then like the sun and star shone forth and Angels sang on earth.
 P The little child in Bethlehem, He was a king indeed!
C For he came down from heaven above to help a world in need.
 P We are so glad each Christmas Eve! His praises then we sing;
C He opens now for every child the Palace of the King.
 P And so we love each Christmas Eve, and we love Jesus too;
C And that he loves us every day, we know so well is true.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
 P Let us pray.
C Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Refrain:

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
 Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
 Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain***

**The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain***

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain***

The congregation sits.

THE READING The Christmas Story - Luke 2:1-20
(with sound effects!)

The congregation stands.

CAROL Hark! The Herald Angels Sing ELW 270

**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 angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"**

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace, Hail the Son of righteousness
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King".**

CHRISTMAS LITANY

P We are so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus' birth!

C **Then like the sun and star shone forth and Angels sang on earth.**

SONG Joy Has Dawned

The congregation sits.

MESSAGE A Visit from St. Nicholas

The congregation stands.

SONG The Cradle Carol
(tune "Away in a Manger, text by Steven Albertin)

**A baby awakens arrayed not in gold,
The hope of the ages on humble display,
But swaddled in soft cloth to warm from the cold,
He laid in a manger asleep on the hay.**

**All wrapped in such raiment asleep in this bed,
A crude lowly birthplace shows what lies ahead,
This baby revealing a kingdom to come,
Where the weak and the lowly are always welcome.**

**The day to be swaddled will come much too soon,
When Jesus was wrapped up and laid in a tomb,
Behold! Three days later the cloth laid aside,
Love burst from the cradle this love had not died.**

**Dear Jesus be near me wrap me in your love,
Unveil your great kindness with love from above,
Look kindly upon me with your tender smile,
And breathing my last breath take me the last mile.**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!**

THE SERVICE OF LIGHTS

CAROL

Silent Night

ELW 281

**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! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Your birth, Jesus, Lord at Your birth!**

BLESSING

CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW 289

**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!**

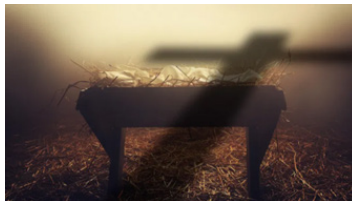
**See Him in a manger laid
Jesus Lord of heaven and earth;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the Good News
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Thank you for joining us on this night of our Savior's birth!



Please return electric candles to the table in the Gathering Place.



Altar Poinsettias

Judy Naaman & Family	In Memory of Bill Naaman
Judy Naaman & Family	In Memory of Helen & Bob Milleville
Jim Schmohe	In Memory of Connie Schmohe
Jim Schmohe	In Memory of Kari Schmohe
Pam Crowell	In Memory of Dring & Beth Crowell
Steve & Susan Kraabel	In Memory of Beatrice Young
Randy & Marcia Poisel	In Honor of our children and grandchildren
Judie & Warren Buddenbaum	In Memory of Lillian Coffey
Judie & Warren Buddenbaum	In Memory of Edward, Charlotte & Gladys Buddenbaum
Judie & Warren Buddenbaum	In Memory of Donald & Lydia Mitchell
Judie & Warren Buddenbaum	In Memory of our Son David Buddenbaum
Hollingsworth's & Copelands	In Memory of Mildred & Earl Bailey
Hollingsworth's & Copelands	In Memory of Norman Bailey
Kyla & Bob Tipsword	In Memory of Winnie & Robert Tipsword
Kyla & Bob Tipsword	In Memory of Wilbur Saylor
Kim & Kathy Peterson	In Memory of our Neil Cowen
Dan & Laura Saffen	In Memory of Richard & Virginia Saffen
Dan & Laura Saffen	In Memory of Lester & Ruth Schoenheir

