

Christmas Eve

King of Glory Lutheran Church

7:00 pm - Contemporary Candlelight



“In Other Words ... I Love You”

Pastor Erik Allen



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, the angels, and the star, the virgin birth in a stable—remains in the shadow of the Child Himself. In one incredible moment, God reunited Creator and created and in doing so laid the cornerstone of humankind's redemption.



HOLY COMMUNION is the gift of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation offered by Jesus Christ to believers. All are welcome to the table. As Lutherans we believe that Christ is really present in the Sacrament and that with the bread and wine we receive His true Body and Blood.

(When receiving communion, the dark cup is grape juice and the light cup is wine. Gluten Free wafers are available upon request.)

Connection Cards - Please take a moment and fill out the Connection Card *(one per family)*. It may be put in the plate during the offering or given to the ushers as you depart.



We invite you to join us Sundays. We have an Education hour for all ages at 9:00 (beginning again January 11). Worship is Blended each Sunday at 10:00 am. Holy Communion is offered every Sunday. Nursery Care is available

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

Christmas Eve
King of Glory Lutheran Church
7:00 pm

PRELUDE

*** SONG**

Worship the King

* CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

C: By day and night he shines for all to see.

P: Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty.

C: that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

P: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

C: So that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

P: Come let us worship our Savior born this night!

*** SONG**

"Oh Come, All Ye Faithful with Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

* CHRISTMAS GATHERING

(Spoken over music)

P: In the quiet of the night
A woman gives birth:
A personal act of faith;
Accepting God's charge upon her.

P: In the quiet of the night
A husband becomes a father:
A personal act of faith;
Accepting God's charge upon him.

P: In the quiet of the night
A baby breathes the air:
A personal act of sacrifice;
God steps out of the divine into the mundane
For us.

*** SONG**

“What Child is This?”

ELW 296

Please be seated

LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

* SONG

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ELW 279

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city 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 enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in that 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 fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to 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 babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 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 men with whom he is pleased!"

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 babe lying in a manger. And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept 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.

*** SONG** "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" ELW 282

Please be seated

MESSAGE "In Other Words ... I Love You" Pastor Erik Allen

*** SONG** "Go Tell It On the Mountain" ELW 290

LESSON Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

P: In the quiet of the night, We accept a gift:

C: **A personal act of faith;
Receiving God's charge upon us.
In the quiet of the night
We are changed forever by our God and Savior
Christ Jesus, our Lord, Who is "God with us."**

P: In the quiet of the night we have heard God's truth;

C: **A personal word of life
Given for our redemption.**

P: We are called to act.

C: **We are called to care.
We are called to share
A personal story of Christmas,
A personal story of salvation.**

P: In the quiet of this night

C: **God sends us to be living faith:
A personal invitation,**

A personal voice of hope,
A personal hand of service,
In our day-to-day acts,
In our day-to-day relationships, amen.

*** OFFERING SONG**

"The First Noel"

ELW 300

(Please drop the Connection Card in the plate with any offerings.)

You may give online by using the following QR code.



*** OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Emmanuel, God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name.

C: Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

(tune of "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!")

Pastor

Oh, may the good Lord be with you. Lift your hearts to

Congregation

And may the Lord be with you, too.

Him in praise. Let us of - fer prais - es true.

To the Lord our hearts we raise.

Congregation

It is fit - ting so to do: Grate - ful - ly we sing___ To the Lord, our King.---

PREFACE

P: It is right and indeed our privilege at all times and in all places to offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh, You who stand outside of time enter into time; You who are infinite become finite; You who are all powerful become all vulnerable; You whose womb bore the world now is born of Mary's womb to bear the Good News of hope and peace, of light and joy forever. We give You thanks for having opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of Your glory; and thus with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your Name and join their unending hymn:

* GLORIA	“Angels We Have Heard on High” (vs 1)	ELW 289
-----------------	--	---------

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; You are most holy, and great is the majesty of Your glory.

You so loved the world that You gave Your only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life.

In the night in which He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying "Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me."

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me."

Send now, we pray, Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine, that we who receive the Body and Blood of Christ may be His body in the world, living according to His example, to bring peace and healing to all people. Join our prayers with those of Your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great High Priest until He comes as Lord of all.

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

(When receiving communion, the dark cup is grape juice and the light cup is wine. Gluten Free wafers are available upon request. All are welcome.)

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

***POST COMMUNION CAROL** [tune: "Angels We Have Heard on High"]

Thank the Lord, His praises voice

For His promised faithfulness!

All who seek the Lord, rejoice

Tell His love, His name confess!

Glo...ria! In excelsis Deo; Glo...ria! In excelsis Deo!

Let Your servant go in peace,

Your salvation I see rise

Justice lives! All wars shall cease,

You lead us to Paradise!

Glo...ria! In excelsis Deo; Glo...ria! In excelsis Deo!

***CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE & SCRIPTURE READING**

**Please turn on your candles during the Scripture Readings.*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Once you were in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light.

God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before all people, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

***PRAYER**

- P: Almighty God, You have filled us with the new Light of the Word who became Flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

***HYMN**

“Silent Night”
(vs 1, 2 & 3)

ELW 281

***BENEDICTION**

- P: May God, who has remained faithful in fulfilling His promises, grant us an abiding and growing faith in His amazing Gift.
- C: **May we demonstrate to the world the peace God gives which passes all human understanding.**
- P: May we share with people everywhere the love of God shown to us most visibly in His Son, the Babe of Bethlehem.
- C: **May we experience the promise of abundant life as we allow Christ to live within us.**
- P: May the blessings of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit go with you as you joyously celebrate the birthday of your Savior, Jesus Christ!

***HYMN**

Joy to the World
(vs 1 & 2)

ELW 267

DISMISSAL

- P: Glory to God in the highest!
- C: **And peace to God’s people on earth!**
- P: Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.
- C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

J. Behnke

Please return candles to the table in the Gathering Place.

Altar Poinsettias

Judy Naaman & Family	In Memory of Bill Naaman
Marian Larson	In Honor of Loved Ones
Kathy & Kim Peterson	In Memory of Carole Rahn
Steve & Susan Kraabel	In Memory of Beatrice Young
Kyla & Bob Tipsword	For the Joy of the Season and in Memory of Andy Carson
Deann Wimer	In Memory of Larry Wimer, Darlene Fulton and Theresa Griffin
Hollingsworth & Copelands	In Honor of Christ's arrival and in Memory of Mildred and Earl Baily and E. Norman Baily
Joan Krueger	In Memory of Larry Krueger
Tim & Dana Franklin	In Honor of Larry and in Memory of Christopher
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
Pr. Erik, Pr. Amy & Family	In Memory of Loved Ones
Pr. Erik & Pr. Amy	In Honor of our Children
Pam Crowell	In Memory of Dring & Beth Crowell
Dan & Laura Saffen	In Memory of Richard & Virginia Saffen
Dan & Laura Saffen	In Memory of Lester & Ruth Schoenheir

