

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 2022

Belton - 3:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Temple - 7:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.



LARGE PRINT

OPENING SENTENCES

John 1:1, 4-5; Isaiah 9:6

In the beginning was the Word,
**and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.**

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.

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

🎵 **O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL**

LSB # 379

**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:**

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

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

*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!*

 **LET US ADORE**

Chorus 1:

***Let us adore Him
Let us adore Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord***

1.

**The heavens declare
The glory of God
And all of the world
Will join the praise
His wonders proclaim *Chorus 1***

Chorus 2:

***Come and behold Him
Bow down before Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord***

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

As we celebrate our Lord's birth, we remember the reason this holy Child was born:

“He has appeared once and for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself.” Hebrews 9:26

He has come to bring peace, **yet not always in ways we can see in this world.**

He has come to bring peace, **yet not always in ways we can see in ourselves in our thoughts, words, and actions.**

He has come to bring peace, **that is forgiveness of sins and peace with our Father in heaven.**

We confess that we have sinned against God and against one another. We yearn for peace with God and reconciliation with one another, yet we cannot accomplish it ourselves. Forgive us, Lord, and restore our souls, that our lives reflect not our sin, but the joy of the birth of Your only Son into the world.

Jesus is Immanuel, which means “God with us.” What we are powerless to do, He has done for us. His name is Jesus, the name that means He has “come to save us from our sins.” Know the peace He has come to bring and live it with all those around you! As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

♪ EMMANUEL (HALLOWED MANGER GROUND)

1. What hope we hold this starlit night: A King is born in Bethlehem.
Our journey long, we seek the light That leads to the hallowed
manger ground.

2. What fear we felt in the silent age, Four-hundred years can He be
found?
But broken by a baby's cry; Rejoice in the hallowed manger
ground.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God incarnate, here to dwell.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Praise His name, Emmanuel.

3. Son of God, here, born to bleed; A crown of thorns would pierce
His brow.

And we beheld this offering, Exalted now, the King of kings,
Praise God for the hallowed manger ground.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God incarnate, here to dwell.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Praise His name, Emmanuel.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God incarnate, here to dwell.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Praise His name, Emmanuel.

Praise His name, Emmanuel. Praise His name, Emmanuel.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the

same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

ISAIAH - 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,

on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,

as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,

and the staff for his shoulder,

the rod of his oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult

and every garment rolled in blood

will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,

to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

and his name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace

there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

TITUS - 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

LUKE - 2:1-14

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ 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.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

🎵 ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

- 1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.**
- 3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.**

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

 **WHAT CHILD IS THIS**

LSB 370

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!**
- 2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!**
- 3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

CHRISTMAS EVE MESSAGE – CHRIST WHO IS THE LORD

OFFERING

♪ MARY DID YOU KNOW

1. **Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on
water?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and
daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.**
2. **Mary, did you know that your baby boy would give sight to the
blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with
His hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod,
And when you kiss your little baby you've kissed the face of God?
THE BLIND WILL SEE, THE DEAF WILL HEAR, THE DEAD WILL LIVE AGAIN.
THE LAME WILL LEAP, THE DUMB WILL SPEAK THE PRAISES OF THE
LAMB.
MARY, DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR BABY BOY IS LORD OF ALL
CREATION?**
3. **Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the
nations?
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb,
And the sleeping Child you're holding is the great I Am?**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Second Article of the Apostle's Creed

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

This, this is Christ the King, the Father's only Son, our Lord—

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead

What does it mean to believe that Jesus is the Babe, the Son of Mary?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God,

begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

🎵 O HOLY NIGHT

1. O holy night! the stars are brightly shining
 It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth;
 Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
 'til He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
 A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices
 For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;

 Fall on your knees, O, hear the angel voices!
 O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
 O night, O holy night, O night divine!

2. Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
 With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand;
 So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
 Here came the wise men from Orient land.
 The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,
 In all our trials born to be our Friend;

 He knows our need, weakness is no stranger.
 Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!
 Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

3. Truly He taught us to love one another;
 His law is love and His gospel is peace.
 Chains he shall break, for the slave is our brother,
 And in His Name all oppression shall cease.
 Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
 Let all within us praise His holy Name.

***Christ is the Lord, O, praise His Name forever!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim.***

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

...Lord, in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

...through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

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.

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Pastor will light the candles of ushers, who will light the candles of people sitting by the aisles.

They in turn light those next to them, tipping unlit candles toward lit ones.

At pastor's signal, all will rise and sing.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;

**Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone. - Isaiah 9:2**

Jesus said, *“I am the light of the world.*

***“Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.” - John 8:12***

Let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and give glory
to your Father who is in heaven. - Matthew 5:14–16

 **SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT**

LSB # 363

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!

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!

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.

♪ AWAY IN A MANGER

LSB # 365

1. **Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

2. **The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

3. **Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**

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CHRISTMAS EVE BENEDICTION

Christmas peace and joy through Christ, His only-begotten Son, be yours.
The blessing of God almighty—Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit—
be and abide with you forever.

Amen.

 **JOY TO THE WORLD**

LSB # 387

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

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