



ST. JOHN'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4269 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, MD
20853



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 24, 2020
4pm Service



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



*A Reconciling
in Christ
Congregation*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

verses 1 and 3



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O

3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



come ve. O come ye to Beth - le - hem:

sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:

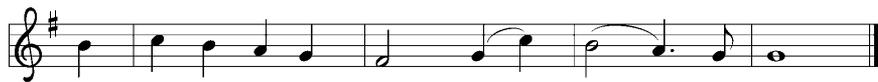
Glo - ry to God in . . . the . . . high - est:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,

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



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

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

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH



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'n - 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: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: GLORIA, French carol

† PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah—

Isaiah 9:2-7

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Pastor Kern

HYMN OF THE DAY

AWAY IN A MANGER



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905



† PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Reply following each petition: **Your mercy is great.***

Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

While we are not passing a basket to collect offerings these days, St. John's continues to receive with thanksgiving your generous support. Together, we give thanks for the offerings we continue to receive.

PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

"How Great Our Joy"

*based on JUNGST
arranged by Craig Courtney*

While by the sheep we watched at night,
Glad tidings brought an angel bright.

*Refrain:
How great our joy! How great our joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!*

There shall be born, so He did say,
In Bethlehem a Child today.

There shall the Child lie in a stall,
This Child who shall redeem us all.

This gift of God we'll cherish well,
That ever joy our hearts shall fill.

Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

† THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING

SENDING HYMN

SILENT NIGHT



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
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,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
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 your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
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 your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Note:

If you are joining us on Zoom, the call will remain open for 10-15 minutes to greet one another unless something else is scheduled.

