

# Christmas Day Service

Christmas Day  
December 25, 2025

Christmas Day Lessons & Carols

St. John's Lutheran Church  
Red Bud, Illinois

PRELUDE: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

arranged by Kenneth Kosche

THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

OPENING HYMN:

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (LSB 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!

## INVOCATION:

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES:

*Psalm 26:8; 1 Kings 8:27; Matthew 1:23; John 1:14*

P: O Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

C: **Will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You; how much less this house that I have built!**

P: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

C: **And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

*Isaiah 52:7; John 1:12–13, adapt.*

P: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

C: **Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son, the Word, to become flesh and dwell among us. We confess we struggle to see His glory when life is difficult or when we are suffering. We look elsewhere for grace and truth instead of focusing on Your eternal Word. We have heard the Good News and struggle to share it. Forgive us, for the sake of You Son, Jesus Christ. Shine the light of Your love on us and dispel the darkness of our hearts.**

P: People of God, I have good news for you, “Your God reigns.” In the mercy of our almighty God, Jesus Christ was born to die for you, and for His sake, God forgives you for all of your sins.

C: **Alleluia! Amen!**

P: To all who receive Him, who believe in His name, He gives the right to become children of God, who are born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man but of God.

C: **Alleluia! Amen!**

HYMN:

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” (LSB 386)



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,      Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
 2 Come from on high to me;      I can - not rise to Thee.  
 3 Now through His Son doth shine      The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.  
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found?      Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth      Poor in a man - ger lies;  
 Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,      O pure and ho - ly Child;  
 Death was reign - ing o'er us      Through sin and van - i - ty  
 Where the an - gels sing - ing      With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth      The sun in yon - der skies.  
 Through Thy grace and mer - it,      Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
 Till He o - pened for us      A bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
 Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing      In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!      Thou my Sav - ior art!  
 Draw me un - to Thee!      Draw me un - to Thee!  
 May we praise Him there!      May we praise Him there!  
 Oh, that we were there!      Oh, that we were there!

INTROIT:

P: For to us a child is born,

**C: To us a Son is given;**

P: And the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called

**C: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

**C: His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

P: The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**C: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

P: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

**C: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

**ALL: 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.**

P: 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.

HYMN:

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising” (LSB 375, v. 1-2, 5-6)



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the  
 2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending And in  
 5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing When by  
 6 Gra - cious Child, we pray, O hear us, From Your



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -  
 love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -  
 faith we grasp this bless - ing, And to You we come con -  
 low - ly man - ger cheer us, Gent - ly lead us and be



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.  
 tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.  
 fess - ing That Your love has set us free.  
 near us Till we join Your choir a - bove.

**FIRST READING – The Promise of a Savior:**

*Genesis 3:8-15*

L: They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

*Matthew 1:18-23*

P: Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

P: Let us Pray: Lord God, in the midst of the fall into sin, You promised a Savior who would crush the serpent's head. Grant us faith to trust in Your Son, born of Mary, who has defeated sin, death, and the devil for us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN:

*"Let Our Gladness Have No End" (LSB 381)*



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Proph - e - sies in days of old, al - le - lu - ia!  
3 See, the love - liest bloom - ing rose, al - le - lu - ia!  
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, al - le - lu - ia!



For to earth did Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!  
God has sent Him as fore - told, al - le - lu - ia!  
From the branch of Jes - se grows, al - le - lu - ia!  
He, our ref - uge and our Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

*Refrain*



On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save



us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

**SECOND READING – The Promise to Abraham:**

*Genesis 22:15-18*

L: And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

*Luke 1:68-75*

P: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

P: Let us Pray: Faithful God, You promised that through Abraham's offspring all nations would be blessed. As You fulfilled this promise in the birth of Jesus, bless us with hearts eager to proclaim His salvation to the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN:

“What Child Is This” (LSB 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!

**THIRD READING – The Child Who Will Reign Forever:**

*Gen. 49:10*

L: The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

*2 Samuel 7:11b-13, 16*

L: And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

*Isaiah 9:6-7*

L: 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. 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.

P: In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

P: Let us Pray: Mighty God, You sent Your Son to be our Prince of Peace, whose kingdom has no end. Rule our hearts by Your grace, that we may live in the light of His everlasting reign; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN:

*"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (LSB 359)*



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph-ets long have  
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark-ness ev - 'ry -  
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

**FOURTH READING – Emmanuel, Born of a Virgin:**

*Isaiah 7:10-14*

L: Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you

wear my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

*Luke 1:34-38*

P: And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

P: Let us Pray: Gracious Father, You gave us the sign of Emmanuel, God with us. Grant that we may ever rejoice in the presence of Your Son, who took on our flesh to save us from our sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN:

*“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” (LSB 356)*



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
2 “For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
“To me be as it pleas - eth God,” she said.  
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



“All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
“My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God’s ho - ly name.”  
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
“Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!

**FIFTH READING – The Shepherd-King from Bethlehem:**

*Micah 5:2-5a*

L: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall

stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

*Luke 2:1-7*

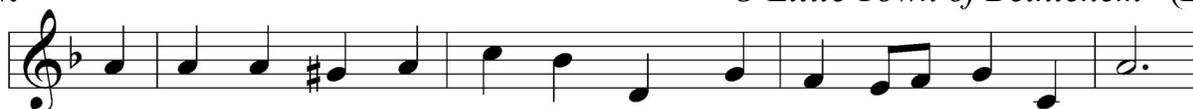
P: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the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

P: Let us Pray: O Lord, You chose Bethlehem, small among the towns of Judah, to be the birthplace of our Savior. Teach us to seek Your glory not in earthly power, but in the humility of Christ, our Good Shepherd; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN:

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (LSB 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!

**SIXTH READING – The Angels Announce the Savior:**

*Luke 2:8-14*

P: And in the same 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, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto 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 baby 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 those with whom he is pleased!”

*Revelation 7:9-12*

**L:** After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

**P:** Let us Pray: Heavenly Father, You announced good news of great joy to shepherds in the fields. Fill our hearts with the same joy, that we may forever glorify and praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

**C:** Amen.

**HYMN:**

*“Angels We Have Heard on High” (LSB 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'n - ly song?  
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**SEVENTH READING – The Shepherds Make Known the Saying:***Luke 2:15-20*

P: 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 baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up 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.

*Luke 24: 44-47*

P: Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

P: Let us Pray: Lord Jesus, as the shepherds shared the good news they had heard and seen, grant us boldness to confess You before the world, rejoicing in the salvation You bring.

C: Amen.

**CHOIR:***“Go Tell It on the Mountain” (LSB 388)*

*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;



*Refrain*

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.

**SERMON**

**OFFERTORY:***“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (LSB 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 Righteous-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.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

**APOSTLES’ CREED****A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS DAY:**

**P:** Grant, almighty God, that the birth of your only-begotten Son in human flesh may set us free, who through sin are held in bondage; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen!

**THE LORD’S PRAYER:** *(Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)*

**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.**

**HYMN:**

*“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” (LSB 393)*



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

**BENEDICTION:**

**P:** On this Holy day and everyday, may you be filled with light and joy of the incarnate Christ child. And our Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forevermore.

**C:** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:**

*“Joy to the World” (LSB 387)*



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
poy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



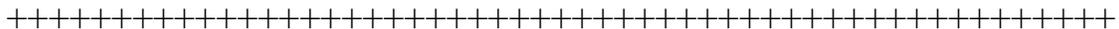
room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

**POSTLUDE: “Joy to the World”**

*arranged by Kevin Hildebrand*



**Serving Us in Worship Today**

Preacher/Liturgist: Pastor Mark Winkelmann  
Organist & Choir Director: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak  
Lector: DCE Bill Becker  
Acolytes: DCE Bill Becker & Mr. Bryce Becker  
Greeters: Jim & Judy Guebert

*Welcome to St. John’s Lutheran Church!*

We are especially happy that we have visitors with us today. St. John’s Lutheran is a congregation which follows the historic order of Christian worship. During the offering, please sign the black friendship register at the end of the pew. We invite you to worship with us again very soon.

**REMAINING SPECIAL HOLIDAY SERVICES:**

Thursday, Dec. 31, 6 p.m., New Year’s Eve Holy Communion Service

***From your St. John’s Family:  
We wish you a Merry and Blessed Christmas!***

## POINSETTIA GARDEN LIST

### *Poinsettias have been given to the Glory of God in loving memory of:*

Our Parents, Wilbert & Earline Stamm; Ben & Clara Maurer	A gift from Eugene & Doris Stamm
Oscar & Irene Stamm	A gift from Brian & Diane Guebert & family
Don & Paulette Kueker	A gift from Mike & Tim Kueker
Parents, Lorenz & Esther Guebert	A gift from Mary Ann Wegener
Loved Ones	A gift from Alverda Rahn, & family
Morgan Breanne Wolter, Keith Wolter, & Floyd Wolter	A gift from The Wolter family
Oliver & Lois Ratz, Julie Ratz	A gift from The Rick Cooper family
Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Becker	A gift from Nancy Liefer
Husband, Mr. Orville Liefer	A gift from his wife, Nancy Liefer
Scherer & Wahnetta Preston, Boniface & Elda Stirnaman, Robert Stirnaman & Nicole Stirnaman Valleroy	A gift from John & Norma Preston
Ralph, Nina, & Kim Liefer	A gift from Kevin & Kalin Liefer families
Brian C. Hunt	A gift from Lisa Quinn & family
Alvin & Leona Buch, Charlene Rose Buch, August & Helen Kruse, Louis Clara Buch, Arlin Buch, & Esther Buch	A gift from Karen & Linda Buch
The many loved ones who have departed this life	A gift from Sharon Henke & family
Harold & Ruth Gielow	A gift from Larry & Diane Gielow family
Louis & Doris Koch	A gift from Mike & Juli Deterding & family
David Koch Sr.	A gift from Mike & Juli Deterding & family
Marcy Watters	A gift from Jeff, Claudia, & Michael Watters
Amos & Erna van Buren & C. James Duclos	A gift from Denis & Brenda van Buren family
Sandy Stellhorn, many Family & Friends celebrating Christmas in Heaven	A gift from Bill & Diana Becker family
Our dear Rhonda & other family loved ones	A gift from Mary Gross & family
Charlee Marie Kennedy	A gift from your cousins: Cadin, Colby, Ty, Max, & Emry Voss
Willie Guebert & Karin Lynn Whelan	A gift from Linda Guebert, Scott, Susan, & Kane Whelan
Frank & Ardell Linnertz, & Larry Berg	A gift from Linda Guebert, Scott, Susan, & Kane Whelan
Edwin, Nina, Danny, Kimberly, & Beth Guebert	A gift from Linda Guebert, Scott, Susan, & Kane Whelan
Roland Birkner	A gift from Irma Birkner & family

Harry & Jean Voss

A gift from the Voss grandchildren

Timothy Voss & Wayne Voss

A gift from the Voss nieces & nephews

Keith Wolter & Matthew Voss

A gift from the Voss cousins

Morgan Wolter & Charlee Kennedy

A gift from the Voss cousins

Our son, Chad Grohmann & Beloved Family & Friends who passed  
before him. Forever in our hearts, eternally in God's hands

A gift from Dennis & Kathy Grohmann & family

**Poinsettias have been given to the Glory of God in honor of:**

Ken & Joan Voges 64 years of marriage on Dec. 26

A gift from their Children, Grandchildren, & Great-Grandchildren

**Poinsettias have been given to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for:**

God's abundant blessings to our Family from our dear members of St. John's

A gift from Bill & Diana Becker family

Our 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary & Our Family

A gift from Wayne & Betty Schmitz

Our Family

A gift from Mike & Tim Kueker

30 years in Education

A gift from Chris Gidley

**In Lieu of Poinsettias, a donation has been made to the Altar Guild, to the Glory of God in  
loving memory of:**

Donald A. & Donald Ray Salger A gift from Verla, Karen, Brenda, Julie & James & Families

***You may pick up your poinsettias after the New Years Eve service. Thank you!***