

CHRISTMAS EVE ~ December 24, 2020

Worship 7:00pm

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GATHERING - Prelude "Still, Still, Still"

Welcome

Sign of the Cross

*P: Blessed be God, creator, ✠ son and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure
and whose steadfast love endures forever.*

C: Amen.

WORD

Responsive reading for the Christmas Season (*from Psalm 98:4-6*)

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

C: break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

L: Sing Praises to the Lord with the lyre,

C: with the lyre and the sound of melody.

L: With trumpets and the sound of the horn

C: make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

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!

The 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!

Greeting & Prayer

P: The amazing grace of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, and the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

1st Reading – Isaiah 9:2-7

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”**

**Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts 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 Sun 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 each child of earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

2nd Reading – Psalm 96

“O Holy Night”

3rd Reading – Luke 2:1-7

“Away in a Manger”

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down
his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying
he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle ‘til morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love
me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

4th Reading – Luke 2:8-14

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Glo – ria in excelsis Deo; Glo – ria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
Glo – ria in excelsis Deo; Glo – ria in excelsis Deo.**

Young People’s Message

The Message – Pastor Lou Peters

5th Reading – Luke 2:15-20

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

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*)**

**Down in a lonely manger, our humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation, That blessed Christmas morn. (*refrain*)**

**The shepherds feared and trembled, When, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus, That hailed our Savior's birth. (*refrain*)**

***Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born. (repeat)***

That Jesus Christ is born, That Jesus Christ is born.

Affirmation of Faith for Christmas Eve

P: We join together in affirming our faith, trust, and hope in the Lord.

C: I BELIEVE in Christmas with all my life;

**I believe that the Lord sends love into the dark corners of our lives;
that in those cold and lonely moments, God welcomes with Good News.**

**WE BELIEVE that God’s Good News sweeps away all the world’s bad
news like a broom sweeps away dust.**

**The Lord brings hope in the midst of despair, healing in the midst of
illness, peace in the midst of strife, and comfort to those who grieve.**

**The Lord brings strength to the weak, companionship to the lonely,
and family to the forgotten.**

**The Lord brings justice for the oppressed, liberty for the captive,
and most of all, that the Lord brings new life in the midst of death.**

**WE BELIEVE that the Lord continues to work in our lives today
through this story of Christ's birth so long ago.**

**WE are the SHEPHERDS, startled to hear the Good News of the angels,
but eager to go and see it with our own eyes.**

**WE are MARY, aware that somehow God is working through us
to accomplish things too big to imagine.**

**WE are JOSEPH, not fully understanding what God calls us to do,
but following as faithfully as we can.**

**WE are the INNKEEPER, busy and frazzled, but making room, somehow,
for the Lord to be born.**

**WE are the WISE TRAVELERS, on a journey of discovery,
bearing our gifts to be given to glorify God.**

**And yes, WE are the ANGELS, proclaiming in our own lives the Good
News that God has come into the world; we will never be the same again.**

**I BELIEVE in Christmas with all my life. Today and throughout the year
to come,**

**I will proclaim that God is with us, Christ is alive, and the Spirit leads us
on! Amen.**

Offering *Thank you for your on-going gifts and for being the generous
people who support the mission & ministry of our congregations.*

Offertory Song *"The First Noel"*

The Great Thanksgiving for Christmas Eve

P: On this silent night, the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: We are so grateful that the Lord welcomes us all to this Table.

C: **We celebrate this welcome, and all the ways that God cares for us and
shows love.**

P: It is good to be reminded of the Lord's grace, compassion, and generosity.

C: **And it is good for God's people to respond with gratitude, with praise, and
with generous living.**

The Lord's Prayer

P: We join together in praying the simple prayer our Lord Jesus taught his followers...

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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.**

6th Reading – John 1:1-14

“Silent Night, Holy Night” *Take a moment to light your candles*

(German) **Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsame wacht nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Hoder Knabe im lockigen Haar, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.**

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 your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Sending Song – “Joy to the World”

**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 all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow, far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

**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.**

Benediction

*P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of
the Holy Spirit be with you this Christmas Eve now and forevermore.*

C: Amen.

Sending

P: Go out and give your joy to the world, and share the Good News of life in
Christ!

C: We will! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – “*Joy to the World*”

We Pray for:

*Boutang family in their loss, Kevin Burns (Eileen Macomber), Joel Cederberg,
Dori Dodson (Chelsea Morehead), Millie Dufseth, Jackie (Nancy),
Daryl & Karen Haggstrom, Cynthia Holmberg (Nancy),
Clarice Moore (Gary Walker), Lois Niewohner, Bill Peters, Janice Ostnes,
Ariana Preshaw, Victoria Raquepaw’s cousin, Susan & especially for her son, Mato,
Joe Strunka in loss of his wife, Susan, Rud family in their loss,
Ashley & Sherri Stephens.*

Our Prayer Partner Church: Table of Grace, Bethel

Announcements

WORSHIP SERVICES for the next several few weeks will be streamed online via Facebook due to the high alert numbers of COVID infections in the state. Thanks for being flexible in our worshipping together and as we trust God through it all!

OUR CHRISTMAS PAGEANT is available to view online via Facebook. Several families were able to share their talents with us as well as the FLC Worship Team. Be sure to take a look at our children and their families telling the Christmas story.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE – on FACEBOOK at 10:00am.

MEMORIAL SERVICE – **Sunday, Jan 3rd, 1:00pm** for **Bob and Marcia Boutang**. The service will be held at the church with limited attendance of family and friends.

LOVING FAMILIES – **the week of January 10th** - put this FLC event on your calendar and plan to help serve the Love Inc Loving Families clients. We will have more information as the date gets closer.

MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY will be held on **Sunday, January 17th** for those who will be officially joining the congregation. Like to become a member or have questions? Talk with Pastor Lou.

Office Hours – due to our High Alert status for COVID the church building has resended it's open status to the public. As numbers lessen, our Reopening Committee will revisit opening to the public again. Thanks for your patience.

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