

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - Saskatoon

Christmas Eve – December 24, 2020



Order of Service

Gathering Music: O Come All ye Faithful

Processional: “O Come All Ye Faithful” – ELW 283 (vs. 1, 3 & 4)

Introit – Alleluia! I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Messiah, the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Lighting of the Christ Candle

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.

Service of Lessons & Carols

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Carol/Special Music: “A Carol of Hope” - choir

Second Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule 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 labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

Carol/Special Music: "Hallowed Manger Ground"

Third Reading: 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 Saviour, 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.

Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High" – ELW #289

Fourth Reading: Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Carol/Special Music: "Away in a Manger" – Rachel Tucker and Choir

Fifth Reading: Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

Carol/Special Music: "Huron Carol" – Lisa Shen

Sixth Reading: Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn: "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" – ELW #270 (vs. 1 & 3)

Homily

Candle Lighting

Hymn: "Silent Night" – ELW #281

Intercessory Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Hymn: "Joy to the World" – ELW #267 (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

Postlude: In Dulce Jubilo – J.S. Bach

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold hi, born the king of angels:

Refrain

*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!

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

“A Carol of Hope”

As the star shone down on that holy night,
to show where the baby lay,
May the light of Christmas fill our hearts,
and lead us in His way.

As the angels sang on that holy night
to tell of the Saviors birth,
May the song of Christmas fill our hearts
with hope for peace on earth.

Though the day may pass so quickly by,
and the Spirit may start to fade;
We must try to keep its meaning alive,
guiding us day to day.

For the Child who came on that holy night,
a gift from our God above,
May we reach beyond this Christmas day
to share that peace and love.
We'll share His peace and love.
We'll share His love.

“Hallowed Manger Ground”

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

What fear we felt in the silent age
400 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

The 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
Praise His name Emmanuel

“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.

Refrain

*Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?

Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king

Refrain

“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 till 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.

“Huron Carol”

‘Twas in the moon of winter-time
when all the birds had fled,
that mighty gitche Manitou!
sent angel choirs instead;
before the light the stars grew dim,
and wondering hunters herd the hymn;
*“Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born
in excelsis Gloria”*

Within a lodge of broke bark
the tender babe was found
a raged robe of rabbit skin
enwrapped his beauty round
But as the hunter braves drew nigh
the angel song ran loud and high
Refrain

The earliest moon of winter-time
is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory
on the helpless infant there;
the chiefs from far before him knelt
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt
Refrain

O children of the forest free
O sons of Manitou
The Holy Child of earth and heaven
is born today for you
Come and kneel before the radiant Boy
who brings you beauty, peace and joy
Refrain

“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!”
Refrain

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to 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.
Refrain

“Silent Night”

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,
heavn’ly 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.

“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.

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.

Announcements:

Zion's Christmas Outreach 2020 - The Mitten Tree is set up in the narthex and there is also a **basket in the narthex to collect items for Interval House again.** There will be printed lists there for you to take and a list below as well. Shopping is difficult for many folks right now so a monetary donation would be very much appreciated! **Please label your donation Social Outreach Fund.** If you have items you would like someone to pick up, please let one of us know. (Jackie 306-881-2888; Linda 306-683-8671; Lori 306-203-9383).

Women and children

- all sizes
- clothing
- underwear and socks
- shoes, boots, slippers
- pyjamas
- mitts, gloves, toques

Toiletry items

- body wash and bar soap
- shampoo and conditioner
- toothbrushes and toothpaste
- hair brushes

Other

- ear buds
- toys
- charging cords and blocks
- kitchen aprons

Gifts from the Heart – CLWR – we have received a limited number of “Gifts from the Heart” catalogues. We have supported this over the past few years, and it is a focus this year as well. You choose a gift for a person on your list, like a pair of goats or a flock of chickens! You send the money to CLWR by calling (1-800-661-2597) or securely online (www.clwr.org/GFTH). CLWR will then send a card to share with your loved one explaining the gift that was made in their honor. You may also give by using your regular Zion offering envelope; **please be sure to clearly mark “Gifts from the Heart”** on the envelope. Thank you for your gifts!

There are also Food Bank Advent Calendars available. The Food Bank is our focus during Advent. You may also choose to give a monetary donation instead of shopping; **please clearly mark your donation for the Food Bank.** Tins of food can be dropped off at the church or Food Bank directly. Thank you for your generosity!

There is an opportunity to take part in an **“eight session Stephen Ministries course called “Discovering God’s Vision for Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts”**. If you are interested in participating, contact Kaylyn in the office.

Offering contributions need to be in the white locked box by December 31 to be counted towards your 2020 offerings. The white locked box is accessible outside the office using the mail slot.

Zion Office Holidays Hours: Please note, the office at Zion will be open Monday, December 21, Tuesday, December 22, Monday, December 28 and Tuesday, December 29. It will be closed December 23-27 and December 30-January 3. Regular office hours will resume Monday, January 4.

In Our Prayers: Derwin Hall, Andrea Nostbakken, Nandari Swamy, Martin, Weldeyesus family, Mallory Jess, Wally Cubbon, Cecelia Jurgens, Vibbs Paulsen, Neil Taylor, Vi Stalwick, Dale Stalwick, Gloria Hamp, Lena & their family, Adam, Betty McManus, Aaron Froese, Glenn Wood, Borgny Lokken, Samhara & Saraq, Brenda Smith, Robert Reid, The Jahnke Family, Slind Family, Arryn Hahn and family