

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE  
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
DECEMBER 24, 2022 5:00 p m



“BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON,  
AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL”

▲ CHRISTMAS CONFESSION *(Spoken. Adapted from Ps. 110: 1&4)*

The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool."

**The Lord has made an oath and will not change his mind: "you are a holy priest forever."**

Let us bring our worship this night to the holy child born into the world as God's chosen Priest and King.

**Open the eyes of my heart, O God, to see in Jesus the King of the world. Forgive me the times I forget his lordship in my life and let sin rule my heart and mind. Help me each day to live out my baptismal commitment to love you, follow Christ, and live by the guidance of your Holy Spirit.**

Through the mercy of God and the ministry of your great King and Priest, your sins are forgiven and your life redeemed. Go now and live in the service of Christ the Lord. **Amen**

▲ ENTRANCE HYMN - **#39 JOY TO THE WORLD** *(Sung)*▲ GREETING *(Spoken)*

The grace of God be with you this night and bring you Christ the Lord.

**And bring you Christ the Lord.**

## ▼ LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

1ST LESSON - PSALM 110:1-4 *(p. 602)*

CANDLE LIGHTING *(Sung. Tune: Go Tell It On The Mountain)*

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; Go tell it on the mountain, the Day of God is here. A priestly King forever shall reign upon God's throne. And all who chose to follow will ever be his own. Go tell it on the mountain, the Day of God is here.**

PRAYER *(Spoken)*

Give us this night, O God, true faith, that we may offer our lives to your only-begotten Son and worship him as our one true King; for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

▼ EPISTLE LESSON - 1 JOHN 4:7-16 *(p. 1212)*▲ CHRISTMAS VERSE *(Sung. Tune: From Heaven Above)*

**Welcome this night, O noble Guest, and may our hearts by you be blest.  
Help us to hear God's holy voice and in his gracious will rejoice!**

▲ GOSPEL LESSON - MATTHEW 1:18-25 *(p. 959)*

**Glory to you, O Lord / Praise to you, O Christ**

## ▼ SERMON

▲ SERMON HYMN - **#50 ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY** *(Sung)*▲ NICENE CREED *(Spoken)*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

▲ CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

▼ OFFERTORY SOLO - AMY TERRY "O HOLY NIGHT"

▲ OFFERING HYMN *(Sung. Tune: What Child is This)*

**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!**

▲ OFFERING PRAYER *(Spoken)*

**We give you thanks heavenly Father that you have blessed us with our lives, our families, our Savior, and the hope of eternity with you. Help us to live as your joyful people that we may shine the light of your love in the midst of the world's sorrows and shadow; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

▲ COMMUNION DIALOG *(Sung. Tune: O Come, All Ye Faithful)*

The Lord God be with you. **And with you, His servant.**

Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the Lord.

**With hearts uplifted, thanks to Him we render**

**With joy we come before Him, In gratefulness implore Him,**

**With thankful hearts adore Him evermore!**

Thanks and praise be to You, our Father, Almighty Creator, Merciful Lord, God of Promise and Fulfillment. Of old Your faithful people waited for the day of visitation, manifest at last when the time had fully come and You sent forth Jesus Christ, Your Son. Having seen His glory, now we wait for the day of consummation, when He will come again as Judge and King. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

▲ THE SANCTUS *(Sung. Tune: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!**

**Heav'n and earth cannot contain All the glory of your name!**

**Hail hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh,**

**In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing.**

**Hail, Hosanna! Praises due, Be forever, Lord to you!**

▲ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

▲ LORD'S PRAYER *(Sung. Tune: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear)*

**Our Father, Lord on heav'n's high throne, / Most holy be Your name.**

**Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, / On earth, in heav'n the same.**

**Give us this day the food we need; / Forgiven may we be;**

**Into temptation do not lead; / From evil set us free.**

**Yours is the kingdom; Unto You / in grateful love we bow;**

**And yours the pow'r, Lord, let us view / Your mighty presence now.**

**The glory Yours; Your praise be sung / By angel host and men**

**In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue / Forevermore! Amen.**

▼ DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*Guests who receive the Holy Sacrament in their home congregation are invited to partake in the Holy Communion. Children may also come forward to the communion rail for a blessing.*

▼ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS    **#41 - O Little Town of Bethlehem    #67 - Away in a Manger**

▲ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Send us forth into your Father's world, O Jesus, King and Priest of Glory, and let your blessed Name be in our hearts and on our lips as we share God's redeeming love. **Amen**

▲ CLOSING HYMN - **SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT** *(Tip only the unlit candle when receiving the flame.)*

**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.**

▲ DISMISSAL

Merry Christmas this Holy Night!  
**With joy we will serve the Savior!!**