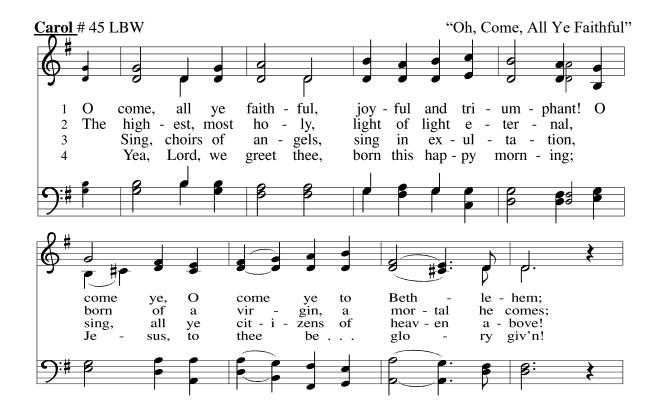
Introduction

In this season of Christmas, we offer our praise and adoration to the Christ Child, Emmanuel, God with us. Through the loving grace of God, through the Word of God, and by means of the sacrament of Holy Communion, God will touch us anew this morning as our celebration of the One who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords continues!

Quiet Meditation: Prayerful Preparation

Welcome/Announcements

<u>Prelude</u> "Coventry Carol" Arranged by Cindy Berry





Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Dialog

The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In him was life, and the life was the light of all the people.

Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do as we continually receive your abundant blessings in this New Year; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lessons and Carols

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You 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. ⁴For 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. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His 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 onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.



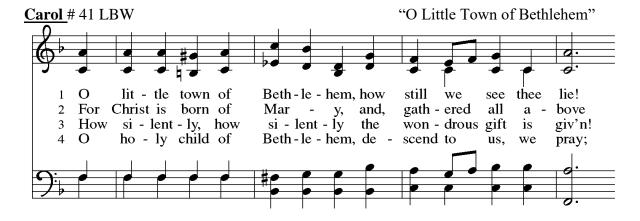


Text: German, 15th cent.; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1599

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Second Reading Micah 5:2-5a

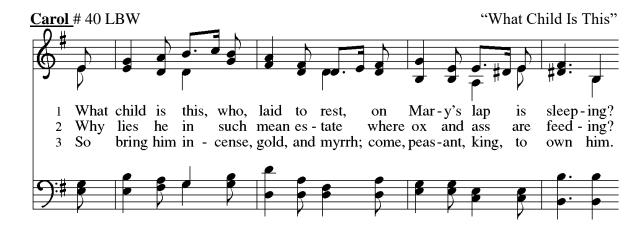
²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And 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; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

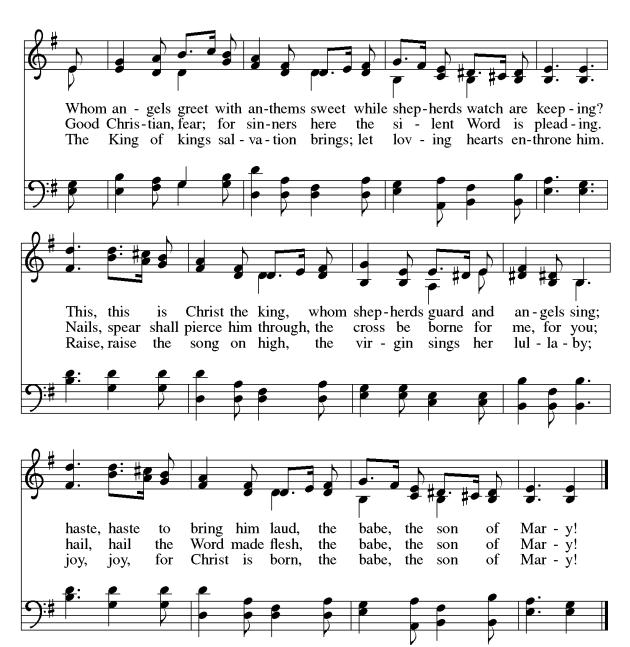




Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908 Third Reading Luke 1:26-35, 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He 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 ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.



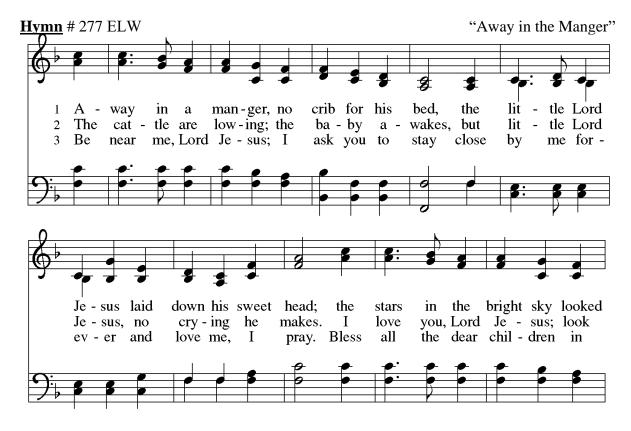


Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEÉVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Fourth Reading Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

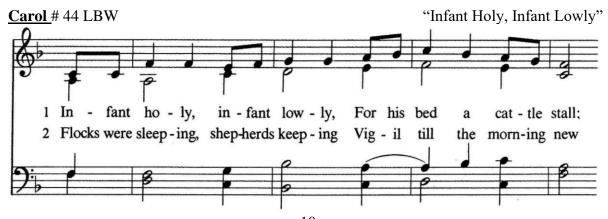




Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

Fifth Reading Luke 2:8-16

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.



Sixth Reading Luke 2:21-35

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.
³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed. ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."





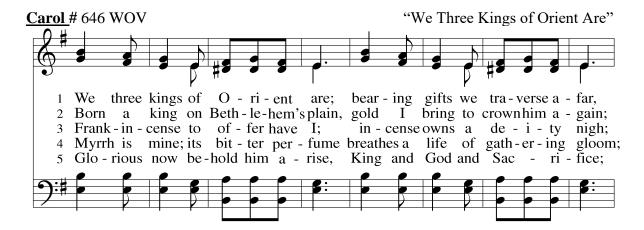


Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-1885, alt.

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Seventh Reading Matthew 2:13-18

¹³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." ¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."





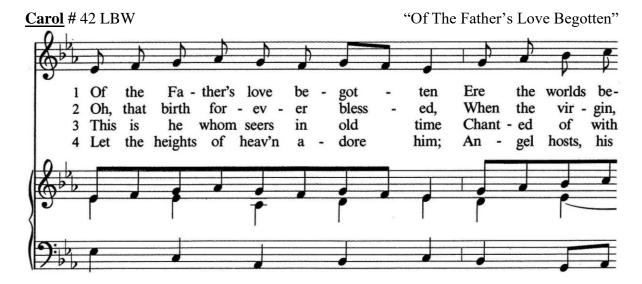
Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

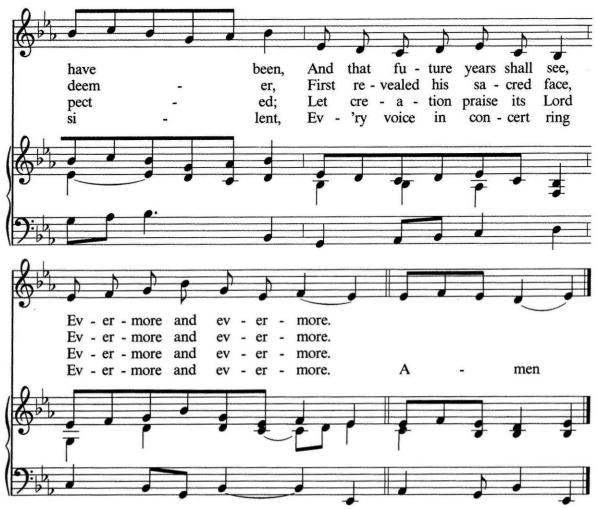
Eighth Reading John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.







5 Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
 And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
 Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
 And unwearied praises be:
 Honor, glory, and dominion,
 And eternal victory
 Evermore and evermore! Amen

: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; tr. composite

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM 8787877 Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity.

God of grace, receive our prayer.

For the thriving of creation, we pray. Protect the habitats of pangolins and porcupines, penguins and parrots, and all wild animals and creeping things. Increase our knowledge of the natural world and the care of its inhabitants.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. We pray for the peoples of Syria, and for peace to prevail, especially in Ukraine, Russia, and the Middle East.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For the well-being of your people, we pray. We thank you for healing that has already happened and we ask for you to watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany people who are alone or ill, frightened, anxious, depressed, and especially individuals who are lonely or bereaved. We pray for all members of Faith Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry, especially Mary Muckler, Marc Dovenmuehle, Deborah Lease, Bob Baer, Pauly Zody, Sarah Driver, Jordan Seubert, Patrick Hellman, Kim, John, Sue, and Liam. Bring them healing and wholeness. Console parents and children whose relationships are strained or severed.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For the ministry of this place: Faith Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry at Miami University, we pray. Let the word of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. In times of challenge, bring strength. In times of transition, bring guidance and peace.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For your holy, beloved, and chosen ones of every time and place, we give thanks. Draw us all into everlasting praise and joy.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Responsive Prayer

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

Amen.

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. 19

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory

"Joseph's Lullaby"

Arranged by Bober

Offering

Wishing to make a donation? This QR code will take you to <u>tithe.ly</u> where we can receive gifts. Please note: a <u>tithe.ly</u> account is required to give in this way but is quick to create! Are you aware this app has an option to allow you to cover transactions fees?



Offering Prayer

Gracious God.

Your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.

As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,

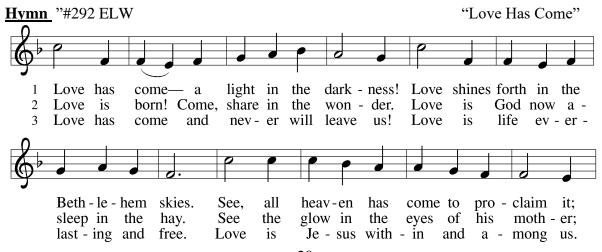
prepare us to receive the grace and truth

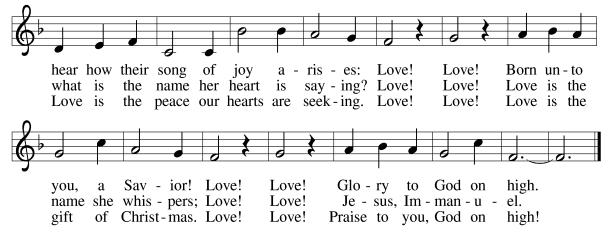
you offer through this sacrament

and renew in us the song of your salvation,

in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.





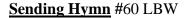
Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale, 1856 Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

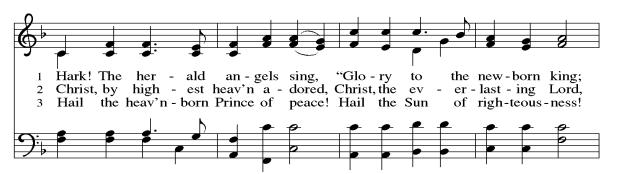
Blessing

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, bless you now and forever.

Amen.



"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"





Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

<u>Dismissal</u>
Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude "Oh How Joyfully"