

12-25-18

With every Christmas

*we dream again,
we hope again,
we give thanks again...
for You, Lord Jesus.*

*And she brought forth her firstborn son,
and wrapped him in swaddling clothes,
and laid him in a manger;
because there was no room
for them in the inn.*

LUKE 2:7

Christmas Day 2018

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Waseca, Minnesota

Opening Hymn: "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"

379

1. 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:

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

2. Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest. *Refrain*
4. 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*

Prayer

Jesus, we thank You for Your coming to earth as that babe at Bethlehem to fulfill the law for us, and to take upon Yourself all of our sins and the punishment they deserved. You demonstrated Your love for the entire world through Your birth, life, suffering, death, and resurrection, in order that we might be declared forgiven and righteous in God's sight. Please fill us now with true Christmas joy so that we might "make known abroad the saying which" has been told unto us also. In Your name, Jesus Christ, Immanuel, we pray. Amen.

The Scripture Prophecy: Isaiah 7:14 & Isaiah 9:6-7 (KJV)

[14]Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

[6] For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. [7] Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Hymn of Fulfillment: *“Now Are the Days Fulfilled”*

1. Now are the days fulfilled, God’s Son is manifested,
Now His great majesty, In human flesh is vested.
Behold the mighty God, By whom all wrath is stilled.
The woman’s promised Seed-Now are the days fulfilled.
2. Now are the days fulfilled, Lo, Jacob’s Star is Shining;
The gloomy night has fled, Wherein the world lay pining.
Now, Israel, look on Him, Who long thy heart hath thrilled;
Hear Zion’s watchmen cry: Now are the days fulfilled.
3. Now are the day fulfilled, The child of God rejoices;
No bondage of the Law, No curses that it voices,
Can fill our hearts with fear; On Christ our hope we build.
Behold the Prince of Peace-Now are days fulfilled.

The Annunciation to Mary: Luke 1:26-33 (KJV)

[26]And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, [27] To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. [28] And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. [29] And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. [30] And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. [31] And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. [32] He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: [33] And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Hymn: *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

361 (vs. 1-2, 4)

1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wondr’ing love
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to all the earth!
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, Decend to us, we pray:
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

The Birth of Jesus: (stand-in unison) Luke 2:1-7 (KJV)

[1] And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. [2] (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) [3] And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. [4] And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) [5] To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. [6] And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. [7] And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Hymn: *“What Child is This”*

370 (vs. 1-2)

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!
2. Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!

The Good News to the Shepherds: Luke 2:8-20 (KJV)

[8]And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. [9] And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. [10] And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. [11] For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. [12] And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. [13] And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, [14] Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. [15] And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. [16] And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. [17] And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. [18] And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. [19] But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in here heart. [20] And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

368

1. Angels we have heard on high. Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in Excelsis Deo. Gloria in Excelsis Deo.
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in Excelsis Deo. Gloria in Excelsis Deo.
3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in Excelsis Deo. Gloria in Excelsis Deo.

Sermon: "Come Rejoicing, Praises Voicing" (Luke 2:1-20)

Christmas Offering: "Christmas Hymn" (Soloist: Kelli Lenz)

Prayers / The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come"

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1. 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 nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows 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.
4. 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 wonder, wonders of His love.