# **December 24, 2021**

# Nativity of Our Lord



If you are an online guest today, please leave a record of your visit, below. Thank you!

# **Online Guest Form**

## **Messiah Lutheran Church**

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758 (256)721-0041 / www.mlutheran.org

#### **SERVICE of WORSHIP**

## Setting 2 from Lutheran Book of Worship

THE PRELUDES

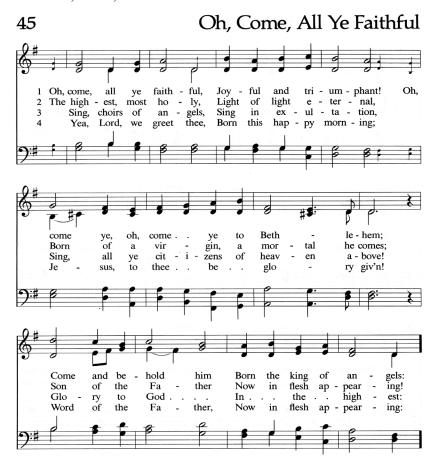
THE INVOCATION

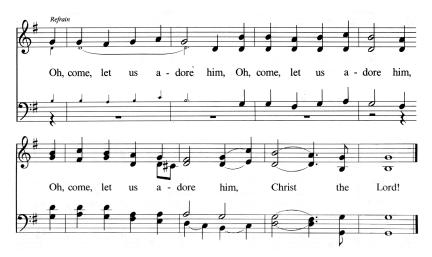
THE CHRISTMAS DIALOG (from John 1)

The people who 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 has light shined. We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

HYMN: "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"





CHERUB CHOIR: Away in a Manger

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### THE FIRST LESSON

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.
- <sup>3</sup> 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.
- <sup>4</sup> 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.
- <sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- <sup>6</sup> For 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.

<sup>7</sup>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 onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

#### THE SECOND LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> 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.

CLARINET SOLO: Gesu Bambino Anna Flowers
THE GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20

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

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> 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: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup> 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." <sup>16</sup> So they went

with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"



VOCAL SOLO: I Wonder as a I Wander

Sarah McCutcheon

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,

and born of the virgin Mary,

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father,

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

#### THE OFFERING

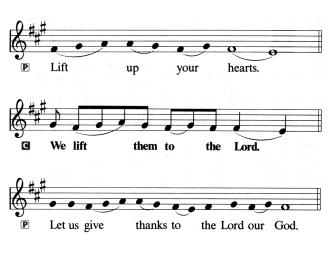
#### THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

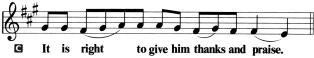
Lord Jesus, thank you for coming down into this world and into our lives. Thank you for entering our darkness in order to bring us into your light. Be born in us so we may share your love and your life in all we say and do. Amen

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING









### THE PREFACE

### THE SANCTUS



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

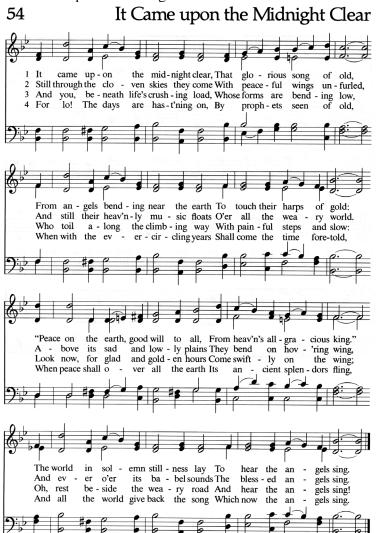
#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

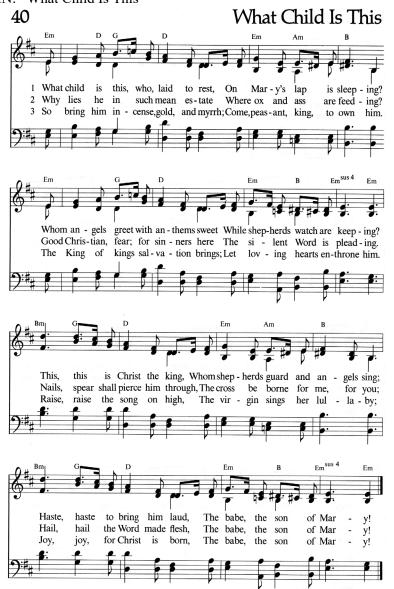
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen

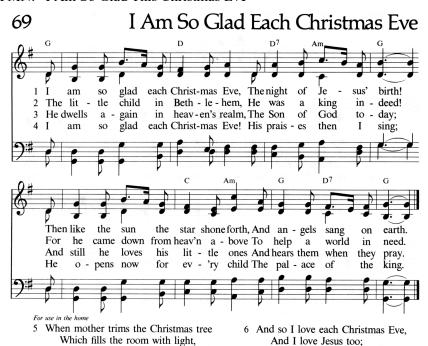
#### THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "Away in a Manger"









HYMN: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

She tells me of the wondrous star

That made the dark world bright.



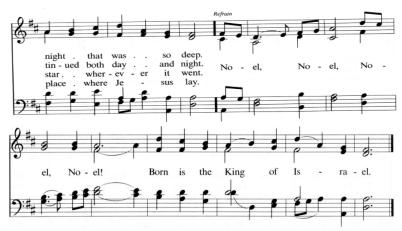
And that he loves me ev'ry day

I know so well is true.



HYMN: "The First Noel"





HYMN: "Go Tell It On the Mountain"



HYMN: "Silent Night"



#### \*THE CANDLELIGHT PRAYER

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 only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

#### THE BENEDICTION



THE POSTLUDE: And the Glory of the Lord (from Handel's Messiah)