

Christmas Eve
The Nativity According to St. Luke
December 24, 2020
5:00, 7:00, & 9:00 pm

Rejoice
for Christ
is born!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



ST. PAUL

— BEREAST. 1866 —

WELCOME

To know and serve Christ by reaching out in love to all.

Please wear a mask during this service and while you are in the building.

This service does not include congregational singing. All singing will be done by Pastor and secluded choir members.

Our financial gifts are offered as a response to what God has given us, and as a reminder that we are caretakers of the world he created. Our members support this church. Visitors are not expected to give an offering. Offerings will be collected in the plates as you exit the nave.

Ushers will direct the way to exit after the service.

Thank you for your understanding and patience. Your health is our concern.



*Hear every word on your smart phone
with **Listen Everywhere**.*

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Apple or Google app store.

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Due to necessary restrictions on congregational singing, Pastor and choir members will sing the congregation's parts throughout the service.

Prelude

quand Jesus naquit a Noel

Claude-Benigne Balbastre

Noel

Lee Chapman

Vom Himmel Hoch

Johann Pachelbel

The assistant carries a candle into the sanctuary, and lights the remaining candles while the pastor leads the following:

Gathering

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

P: From heaven above to earth I come / to bring good news to everyone!

Glad tidings of great joy I bring, / to all the world, and gladly sing:

**R: "To you this night is born a child / of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
this newborn child of lowly birth / shall be the joy of all the earth.**

P: My heart for very joy now leaps; / my voice no longer silence keeps;

You too must join the angel-throng / to sing with joy his cradle-song:

R: Glory to God in highest heaven / who unto us his Son has given.

With angels sing in pious mirth: / A glad new year to all the earth!

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.



Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P: We gather to celebrate the birth of the light of the world.

We light the candle of **hope** to remind us of the **hope** we have in Jesus.

A purple candle is lit.

P: We light the candle of **peace** to remind us that **peace** is the way, the truth, and the life.

A second purple candle is lit.

P: We light the candle of **joy** to remind us of the **joy** God gives every heart that abides in him.

The rose candle is lit.

P: We light the candle of **love** to remind us that God is **love**.

A third purple candle is lit.

P: We light the **Christ** candle to remind us that the light of the world was born this night.

The Christ candle is lit.

P: We pray: O God, you make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that we may ever walk in the light of Jesus' presence; for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Introit (*Psalm 2:1-2,4-6; antiphon: Liturgical Text*)

**C: When all was still, and it was midnight,
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.**

P: Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel
together,
against the LORD and against his anointed.
He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.
Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
“As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
When all was still, and it was midnight,
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.**

Carol of Invitation

All is Ready Now

5 & 7 PM

O Holy Night

9 PM

The Hebrew Scriptures (*Isaiah 9:2-7*)

A: A reading from Isaiah:

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Carol of Praise

Angels From the Realms of Glory

5, 7, & 9 PM

The Christian Scriptures (*Titus 2:11-14*)

A: A reading from Titus:

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,
¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Carol of Praise

Hear the Angels

5 & 7 PM

Ding Dong, Merrily on High

9 PM

The Holy Gospel (*Luke 2:1-20*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

Continued on next page

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. 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 her 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Choir Carol

Murmurs in a Stable

9 PM

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the virgin Mary.
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father.
and 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.**

Carol of Praise

O Little Town of Bethlehem

5, 7, & 9 PM

Sermon

Pastor Dan Skillman

Choir Carol

Christmas Lullaby

5 PM

Tonight Is Christmas Eve

7 PM

What is This Lovely Fragrance

9 PM

Announcements

Prayers of the People

A: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

Carol of Contemplation

Stille nacht

Franz Gruber

Closing Prayer and Benediction

P: We pray: Almighty God, you make this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence, and wake to the brightness of his glory; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Amen.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace; share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

In dulci jubilo

J. S. Bach



Contributors to the Service

<i>Presiding Minister</i>	<i>Rev. Dan Skillman</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Dale Hukill</i>
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Dean Firing, Jon Montag, Sherrill Crawford</i>
<i>5pm Choir</i>	<i>Cindy Cain, Meg Montag, Lynne Morella, Liz Wittmann</i>
<i>7pm Choir</i>	<i>Sherrill Crawford, Culley Coughlin, Bette Idemoto, Nancy Kryz</i>
<i>9pm Choir</i>	<i>Valerie Mathis, Shaun McGrath, Mary Murphy, Loren Reash-Henz</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Members of St Paul</i>
<i>Audio/Video</i>	<i>Phillip Sultan, Jeff Campbell, Nate French</i>

NEXT SERVICES

December 25, 2020

11:00 am “In Building” by reservation

11:00 am on YouTube

Christmas / The Nativity According to St. John

READINGS

John 1:1-18 (Exodus 40:17-21, 34-38, Titus 3:4-7)

December 27, 2020

9:00 am “Drive In” “Kar Karoling” Service

11:00 am “In Building”

Nunc Dimittis / First Sunday After Christmas

READINGS

Luke 2:22-40 (Isaiah 11:1-5, Galatians 4:1-7)

Listen again to music and sermons: www.stpaulberea.org/music
Watch again by following the YouTube link at: www.stpaulberea.org

Sermon Notes

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church Council

<i>President</i>	<i>Randy Genther</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Aaron Ozanich</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Jen Hinton</i>
<i>Council Members:</i>	<i>Lynne Morella, Peter Brumenschenkel, Phillip Sultan, Rob Winwood, Donna Tindera, Dan Skillman</i>

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

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<i>Handbell Choir Directors</i>	<i>Culley Coughlin/Marilyn Niksa</i>
<i>Director of Children's Ministry</i>	<i>Susan Moore</i>
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<i>Bookkeeper/Treasurer</i>	<i>Lynnette Ozanich</i>
<i>Nursery Care Attendant</i>	<i>Gail Brandt</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Gail Voigt-Ryan</i>

Early Education Center

<i>Board Chair</i>	<i>Joan Holden</i>
<i>Director & Teachers</i>	<i>Liz Campbell & Sharon Genther</i>

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