

Hope Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
Shawnee, Kansas

* *The Nativity of Our Lord* *
* *Christmas Midnight* *
* 24 December A. D. 2021 * 9:30 P. M. *

* *Preparation* *

PRELUDE

Let Our Gladness Have No End.....Ralph C. Schultz
Pastorale from the Christmas Concerto.....Arcangelo Corelli
O Come, All Ye Faithful.....Charles Callahan
Now Sing We, Now RejoiceJohann Michael Bach and Dieterich Buxtehude

MIDNIGHT VERSICLES (*Stand*)

- P** At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, O LORD,
C **because of Your righteous judgments.**
P And at midnight comes the cry:
C **“Behold, the Bridegroom; go out to meet Him!”**
P When all was still, and it was midnight,
C **Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.**

Psalm 119:62 (adapt.); Matthew 25:6 (adapt.); Wisdom 18:14–15

HYMN

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

Hymn 366

INVOCATION – *The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

EXHORTATION

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

CONFESSION ☩ ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

- P** Do you confess to almighty God that you are a poor, miserable sinner?
C **I do.**

P Do you confess to our merciful Father that you have sinned against Him in thought, word, and deed?

C I do.

P Do you confess that you justly deserve His temporal and eternal punishment?

C I do.

P Do you believe that our Lord Jesus Christ died for you and shed His blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of all your sins?

C I do.

P Do you pray God, for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of His beloved Son, to be gracious and merciful to you?

C I do.

P Finally, do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?

C I do.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The Lord comfort your heart and mind by His holy Absolution, and strengthen you by His Sacraments, that your joy may be full. Peace be with you!

C Amen. Thanks be to God!



Adapted from the Rite, Visiting the Sick and Distressed, from the Lutheran Service Book Pastoral Care Companion.

* Service of the Word *

INTROIT

Psalm 2:1–2, 4–6; antiphon: Wisdom 18:14–15



When all was still, and it was | midnight,* →

Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the | royal throne.

Why do the | nations rage,* **And the people plot a | vain thing?**

The kings of the earth | set themselves,* **And the rulers take counsel to- | gether,**

A- | gainst the LORD* **and against His A- | nointed.**

He who sits in the heav- | ens shall laugh; **The Lord shall hold them in de- | rision.**

Then He shall speak to them | in His wrath, **And distress them in His deep dis- | pleasure:**

“Yet I have | set My King* **On My holy hill of | Zion.”**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,* 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.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

P Let us pray:

P O God, as You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; 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.**

Sit

ANTHEM

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Solo

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:2–7; 11:1–3, 10

- ² The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light;
Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.
- ³ You have multiplied the nation And increased its joy;
They rejoice before You According to the joy of harvest,
As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.
- ⁴ For You have broken the yoke of his burden And the staff of his shoulder,
The rod of his oppressor, As in the day of Midian.
- ⁵ For every warrior's sandal from the noisy battle, And garments rolled in blood,
Will be used for burning and fuel of fire.
- ⁶ For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- ⁷ Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end,
Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,
To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. ...
- ^{11:1} There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,
And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might,
The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.
- ³ His delight is in the fear of the LORD,
And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears ...
- ¹⁰ "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people;
For the Gentiles shall seek Him, And His resting place shall be glorious."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Hymn 359

EPISTLE

Titus 2:11–14; 3:4–7

¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who

gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. ...

^{3:4}But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Hymn 386

HOLY GOSPEL (*Stand*)

Luke 2:1–20 (AV)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. ²(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) ³And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) ⁵to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷And 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.

⁸And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, ¹⁴Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

¹⁵And 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. ¹⁶And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

LSB, p. 191 or page facing back inside cover

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY *We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth* Hymn 382
sts. 1-2: All st. 3: Women st. 4: Men sts. 5-7: All

SERMON He Fills Your Need, Our Need Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

OFFERING *In the Bleak Midwinter* Gustav Holst, arr. Craig Courtney Duet

In the bleak midwinter Frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter Long ago.
Our God, heaven cannot hold Him Nor earth sustain,
Heaven and earth shall flee away When He comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.
What shall I give Him, Poor as I am?
If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him, Give my heart.

(Christina Rossetti)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Prayer concludes:

- P** Glory be to You, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, in all honor and majesty and power and might and dominion, now and unto the ages of ages.
C Amen.

** Service of the Sacrament **

PREFACE ✕ PROPER PREFACE ✕ SANCTUS *LSB*, pp. 194-198

✕ **LORD'S PRAYER** (*spoken by all*)

✕ **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD ✕ PAX DOMINI ✕ AGNUS DEI**

DISTRIBUTION *Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising* Hymn 375

Let All Together Praise Our God Hymn 389

△ *Stand for the doxology*

NUNC DIMITTIS p. 199

THANKSGIVING ✕ POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, O LORD,
C because of Your righteous judgments.

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the Fountain and Source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but evermore to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

When lighting, please tilt the unlit candle into the flame of the lit candle to avoid dripping wax.

When the candles are all lit:

P And at midnight comes the cry:

C “Behold, the Bridegroom; go out to meet Him!”

P When all was still, and it was midnight,

C Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.

BENEDICAMUS ✕ BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✕ give you peace.

C Amen.

CANDLELIGHT HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night

✕ *Stanza 1 sung in German*

- 1 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.
- 2 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.
- 3 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!
- 4 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

POSTLUDE

Silent Night

Dale Wood

** Service Leaders **

Preacher/Celebrant.....Pastor Michael Penikis
Organist..... Kim Schuler
Kantor.....Dr. Louis Schuler
Soloists.....Alecia Stultz and Xander Stultz
Acolyte.....Katie Haverkamp
Video..... Laura Haverkamp

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