

*To you is  
born this  
day a* **Savior**

LUKE 2:11





Hope Lutheran Church  
December 24, 2020

Pastor  
Organist

Jim Helgren  
Ruth Neeman

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Nativity of Our Lord

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Prelude, Welcome, Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle/Christmas Proclamation

Opening Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

# 45

Invocation

Confession

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence*

God of goodness and lovingkindness,

**We confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.**

**We have turned away from your invitation to new life.**

**We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden.**

**In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,**

**those we know and those known only to you,**

**for the sake of the one who came to live among us,**

**Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Absolution

Hymn of Praise

"O Holy Night"

Craig Straube

Dialogue

P: Sing to God something brand new!

**For God has done wonderful things!**

P: God has not forgotten to love us all!

**Even the ends of the earth have heard!**

P: Make a joyful noise!

**Break forth in song!**

P: With string and horns,

**Sing praise to the Holy One!**

P: With the roaring sea and everything in it!

**With all the land and everything in it!**

P: The floods clap their hands.

**The hills sing for joy.**

P: Thank God! God is coming to set everything right;

**Justice for everyone, everything fair.**

P: Sing to God something brand new!

**For God has done wonderful things!**

## Prayer of the Day

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

Special Music                      "I Wonder if He Knew"                      Sharon Carman

First Reading                      Isaiah 9: 2-7  
    Psalm 96 (responsive)                      pg 261

Second Reading                      Titus 2: 11-14

Gospel                                  Luke 2: 1-20

Sermon

Hymn                                  "O Little Town of Bethlehem"                      # 41

Offering

Offertory                              "Away in a Manger"                      Anusha Thomas  
   Mackenzie Sell

## Offertory Prayer

P: Gracious God,

You came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

## Responsive Prayer

P: Glory to God in the highest,

And peace to God's people on earth.

P: 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.

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

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

P: 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

## Lighting of the candles

Hymn                                  "Silent Night"                      Alberta Block  
   Sharon Carman

Benediction & Dismissal

Closing Hymn                      "Joy to the World"                      # 39



## Nativity of Our Lord

### FIRST READING: 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.

### Psalms 96

### SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

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.

### GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

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.]

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 61:10—62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40.

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## Christmas Proclamation

*This contemporary version of an ancient proclamation places the birth of Christ into human history yet avoids a literalistic accounting of time. The last phrase makes it clear that the nativity of Jesus is not only then but now, today, in our own time. The proclamation may be chanted by a presiding or assisting minister, cantor(s), or choir at the beginning of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day liturgy, perhaps before the gathering hymn. Music Sourcebook for All Saints through Transfiguration (Augsburg Fortress, 2013) includes two musical settings for the Christmas proclamation.*

Many ages from the time when God created  
the heavens and the earth  
and then formed man and woman in his own image;  
long after the great flood,  
when God made the rainbow shine forth  
as a sign of the covenant;  
twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given  
to Abraham and Sarah;  
thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel  
out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom;  
eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges;  
one thousand years from the anointing of David as king,  
in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days  
discerned by the prophets;  
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;  
the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the  
foundation of the city of Rome;  
the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;  
while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace,  
Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father,  
desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming,  
being conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother—  
now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, God made flesh.

*Text: Traditional, adapt. Brian T. Johnson*