

*I am bringing you
good news
of great joy*

LUKE 2:10



Hope Lutheran Church
December 24, 2025

Pastor
Organist

Jim Helgren
Ruth Neeman

Nativity of Our Lord

Prelude, Ingrid & Astrid Mitchell, Mayblin Meyerson

Special Music, Vivienne Neeman

Welcome, Announcements

Christmas Proclamation

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Opening Hymn "O, Come, All Ye Faithful"

LBW # 45

Invocation

Confession

P: God of Life,

C: You promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Absolution

Hymn of Praise "Angels We Have Heard on High"

LBW # 71

Dialogue

P: Sing to God something brand new!

C: For God has done wonderful things!
P: God has not forgotten to love us all!
C: Even the ends of the earth have heard!
P: Make a joyful noise!
C: Break forth in song!
P: With strings and horns,
C: Sing praise to the Holy One!
P: With the roaring sea and everything in it!
C: With all the land and everything in it!
P: The floods clap their hands.
C: The hills sing for joy.
P: Thank God! God is coming to set everything right;
C: Justice for everyone, everything fair.
P: Sing to God something brand new!
C: For God has done wonderful things!

Prayer of the Day (in unison)

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

First Reading	Isaiah 7:10-16	
	Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19	pg.252
Second Reading	Romans 1:1-7	
Gospel	Matthew 1:18-25	

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "Away in a Manger"

LBW # 67

Responsive Prayer

P: Glory to God in the highest,

C: And peace to God's people on earth.

P: Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

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

C: 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.

C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen.

The Peace

Offering/Offertory "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vrs.1&2 LBW # 41

Offertory Prayer

God of Abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

pg. 68

The Lord's Prayer

pg. 71

Holy Communion "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

LBW # 54

"Hark the Herald"

LBW # 60

Blessing

Post Communion Canticle

pg. 72

Prayer

Lighting of the Candles

Hymn "Silent Night"

LBW # 65

Benediction and Dismissal

Closing Hymn "Joy to the World"

LBW # 39

We are happy to have you celebrate the birth of our Savior with us tonight! Please sign the guest book in the entry if you are visiting. We invite all communing Christians to join us in Holy Communion. Merry Christmas!

Thursday, December 25th: Christmas Day

Sunday, December 28th: 10:00 Worship

In our prayers we remember Ruth Heitbrink, Carol Speth, Dee Stoner, Gerry Brezenski & the Workbook Committee

Many thanks to Ingrid & Astrid Mitchell, Maybin Meyerson, & Vivenne Neeman for sharing their musical talents with us tonight. We appreciate each of you.

May the light of the Christ Child illumine our days, Merry Christmas!

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.
You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
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.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
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.
Great will be his authority,
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.

Psalm 96

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing
salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce
impiety and worldly passions and in the
present age to live lives that are self-con-
trolled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait
for the blessed hope and the manifestation
of the glory of our great God and Savior,
Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He 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 Caesar
Augustus that all the world should be regis-
tered. ²This was the first registration and was
taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.
³All went to their own towns to be registered.
⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to
be registered with Mary, to whom he was en-
gaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While
they were there, the time came for her to de-
liver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her first-
born son and wrapped him in bands of cloth
and laid him in a manger, because there was
no place in the guest room.

⁸Now in that same region there were shep-
herds living in the fields, keeping watch over
their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the
Lord stood before them, and the glory of the
Lord shone around them, and they were ter-
rified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not
be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good
news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you
is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a
sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in
bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And
suddenly there was with the angel a multi-
tude of the heavenly host, praising God and
saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those
whom he favors!"

[¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they
went with haste and found Mary and Joseph
and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When
they saw this, they made known what had
been told them about this child, ¹⁸and
all who heard it were amazed at what the
shepherds told them, ¹⁹and Mary treasured
all these words and pondered them in her
heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying
and praising God for all they had heard and
seen, just as it had been told them.]

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23.

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