

# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS EVE

*A Service of Word, Sacrament, and Candle Lighting  
December 24, 2025*



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

85 E. Brandt Boulevard

Landisville, PA

*Connecting with God; Connecting with others; Connecting others with God*

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**WELCOME TO ZION!** We are glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning! The service contains the four parts of the Lutheran liturgy (The Gathering, The Word, The Meal, and The Sending). Please note that those who are remembered in the liturgical calendar are included in the Prayers of the Faithful. If you have any questions concerning our service, please do not hesitate to talk with our pastor, Pastor Tim.

## **WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT ZION**

**IN-PERSON:** All are invited to join us for worship at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday morning.

**ONLINE:** If you are unable to worship in-person, the service is live-streamed and can be viewed on the church YouTube channel:

**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy\\_3AeK\\_pExuVhcUfl2cSw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy_3AeK_pExuVhcUfl2cSw)**

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- ❖ Restrooms are available by the front entrance of the church in the narthex and in the hallway off the back door. Infant changing tables can be found in the women's and men's bathrooms in the hallway off the back door.
- ❖ Children are welcome to be active participants in the worship service. Children are invited to come forward for the Christmas Children's Chat. In addition, there are bags located at the back of the sanctuary with quiet worship activities and goodies to take home. Currently, nursery care is not available but you may use the parlor as a calming room while also still being able to listen to the service.
- ❖ Ushers are located near the front and back of the worship area to direct people to seating, assist with other matters, and to answer questions.



# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS EVE 2025

## A Service of Word, Sacrament, and Candle Lighting

*P: Pastor      A: Assisting Minister      C: Congregation*

### CHRISTMAS INTRODUCTION

*In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.*

### MUSICAL PRELUDE

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Mark Hayes  
John Landis, Piano

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

Mark Hayes  
John Landis, Piano

*Christmas Carol Selections*

arr. Karen Khanagov  
Jamie Marrs Smith, Cello

*O Holy Night*

arr. T. Fettke and T. Grassi  
Corey Landis, Soprano

*Prelude on "Greensleeves"*

Richard Purvis  
John Landis, Organ

### CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

Jamie Marrs Smith, Soprano

*Please stand, if you are able, and turn to face the cross as it enters our midst on this glorious night of nights.*



# † THE GATHERING †

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ELW 283

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing,  
 \*3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion!

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem!  
 Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry given;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!

Come, and be - hold Him, Born the King of an - gels!  
 Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est!

*Refrain*  
 O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a -  
 dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ, the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Benedict Family

**SONG**

***A Candle Is Burning***

**S. Dean**

***Sung to the tune of “Away in a Manger”***

We honor Lord Jesus with the Christ candle flame,  
Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.  
O come all you faithful, rejoice in this night,  
As God comes among us, the Christian’s true light.

**PRAYER OF THE NIGHT**

**P:** Let us pray. 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.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**ANTHEM**

***Come to the Stable***

**Garry A. Cornell**  
**Corey Landis, Soprano**  
**Jamie Marrs, Cello**

**A GREETING FROM PASTOR TIM**

*Please stand if you are able.*

**SONG**

***Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)***

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let all their songs employ.  
While fields and floods, rocks hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat repeat the sounding joy.



*Refrain*

Joy, unspeakable joy!  
An overflowing well; no tongue can tell!  
Joy, unspeakable joy!  
It rises in my soul, never lets me go!

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love! *Refrain*

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, George Frideric Handel, Isaac Watts, Matt Gilder  
CCLI Song #5607039  
Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs;  
Ryan House Music; Wondrously Made Songs

*Please be seated.*

† **THE WORD** †

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

*Light shines: a child is born for us.*

A: <sup>2</sup>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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 96

*Please chant responsively.*



A: <sup>1</sup>Sing to the Lord | a new song;  
sing to the Lord, | all the earth.

C: <sup>2</sup>**Sing to the Lord, bless the name | of the Lord;**  
**proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations  
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised,**  
**more to be feared | than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;  
but you, O Lord, have | made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;**  
**power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the Lord, you families | of the peoples,  
ascribe to the Lord hon- | or and power.

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the | holy name;**  
**bring offerings and enter the courts | of the Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness;  
tremble before the Lord, | all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: "The | Lord is king!**  
**The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge**  
**the peo- | ples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is  
therein.

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O Lord,**  
**for you come to | judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peoples | with your truth.

## Titus 2:11-14

*The grace of God has appeared.*

A:     <sup>11</sup>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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C:     **Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

*The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy*

arr. John F. Wilson

## CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S CHAT

*Please stand if you are able.*

## GOSPEL HYMN

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

ELW 270

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come, off-spring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"
3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of peace! Hail the Son of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"



## **Luke 2:1-20**

*God with us.*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**P:** <sup>1</sup>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 guest room.

<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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

***Refrain***

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

This star drew near to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

*Please be seated.*

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

**Pastor Tim Seitz-Brown**

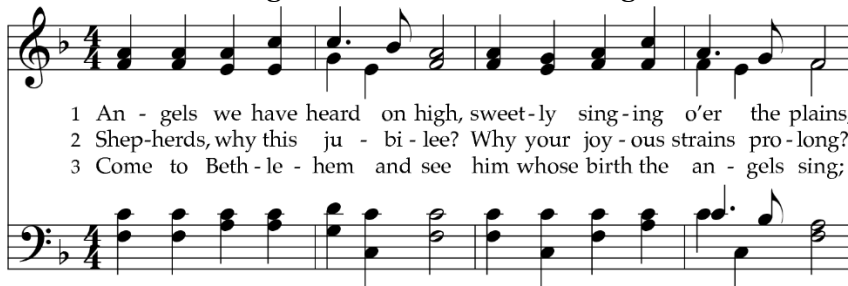


*Please stand if you are able.*

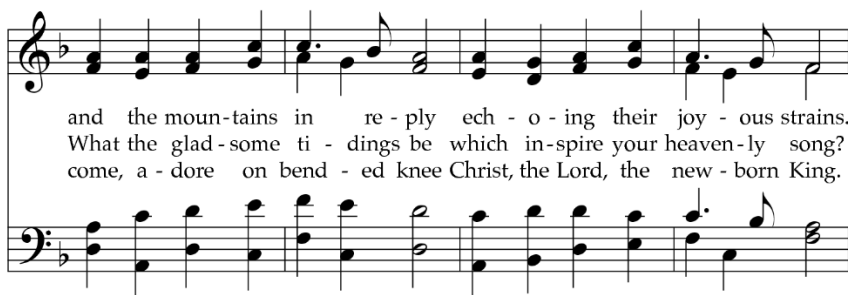
**SERMON HYMN**

***Angels We Have Heard on High***

**ELW 289**



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?  
3 Come to Beth-le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in-spire your heaven-ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*



Glo - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - -





This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called “macaronic” or mixed-language texts.

TEXT: French carol; trans. James Chadwick, 1860, alt.

MUSIC: French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

Music © 1937, ren. 1965 H. Augustine Smith Jr.

(admin. Fleming H. Revell Company, a div. of Baker Publishing Group)

GLORIA

7.7.7.7 with refrain

## NICENE CREED

**P:** Let us profess our faith together.

**C:** **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.\* With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*ELW note: “and the Son” reflects the Western tradition.*

## CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

A: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence*

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church of every time and every place in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night. We praise you for the wonders of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania—its mountains and valleys, rivers and creeks, rolling farmlands, woodlands, and wildlife—that proclaim your glory. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares, especially in Gaza, Israel, United States, Venezuela, South Sudan, Myanmar, Ukraine, Eastern Congo, Pakistan/Afghanistan, Nigeria, the Brown University and MIT campuses, Stewartville High School, and victims of the Bondi Beach violence in Sydney, Australia. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling, including those on Zion's prayer lists. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth. Give us the passion and resolve to ensure that every person is adequately clothed and housed, especially youth seeking safety and care. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus. We remember Stephen, Deacon and Martyr; John, Apostle and Evangelist; the Holy Innocents, Martyrs; and all those who have passed on the faith to us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

### **THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### **† THE MEAL †**

### **OFFERING SONG**

#### ***What Child Is This***

**ELW 296**

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;

Come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings;

Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

### **PRAYER**

**A:** God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

**C:** **Amen.**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P:** Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.  
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: We pray together.

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

*Please be seated.*

## **PARTAKING IN THE BREAD AND CUP OF SALVATION**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament by coming forward to receive the elements. Those who do not or choose not to partake of the sacrament may come forward and receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please let one of the ushers know and the pastor will come to you.*

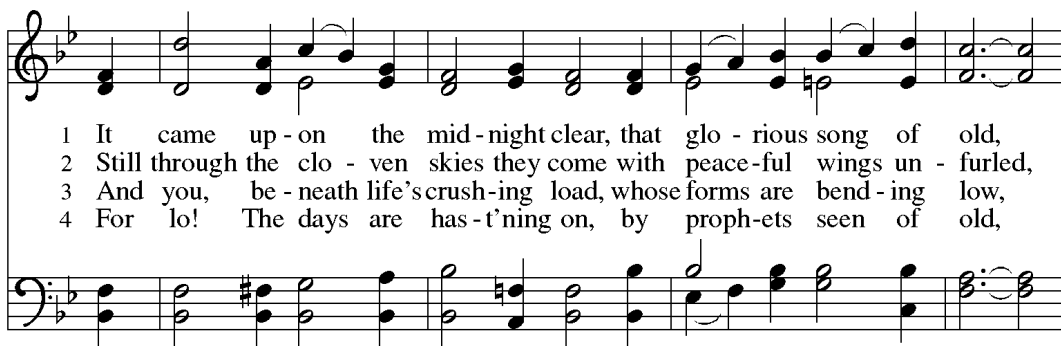
*For those not able to have red wine, there is grape juice in the outer circle of every tray. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers will say: "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you," to which you may respond: "Amen."*

*Please use this time for quiet reflection or join in singing the communion hymns until all worshippers have communed and have returned to their seats.*

### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

#### ***It Came upon the Midnight Clear***

**ELW 282**



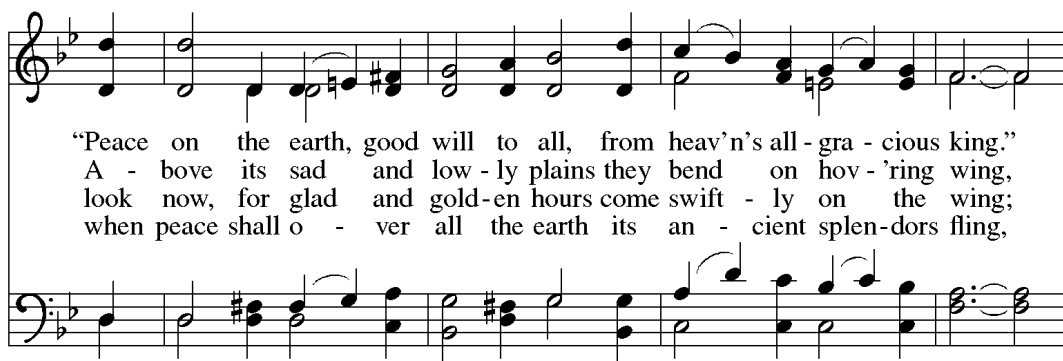
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



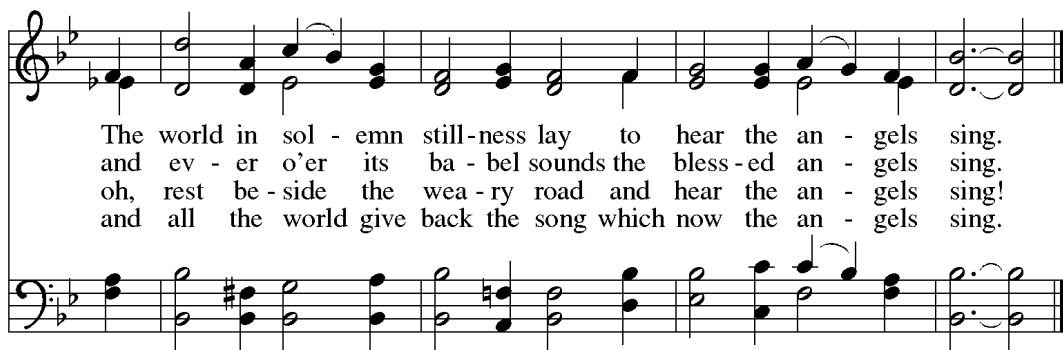
from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,







“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all - gra - cious king.”  
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - ’ring wing,  
 look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,

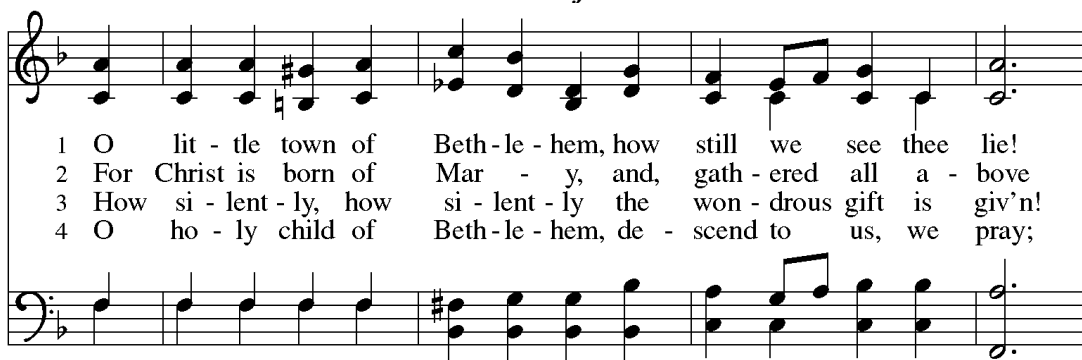


The world in sol - emn still-ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
 and ev - er o’er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876  
 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900


### *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ELW 279

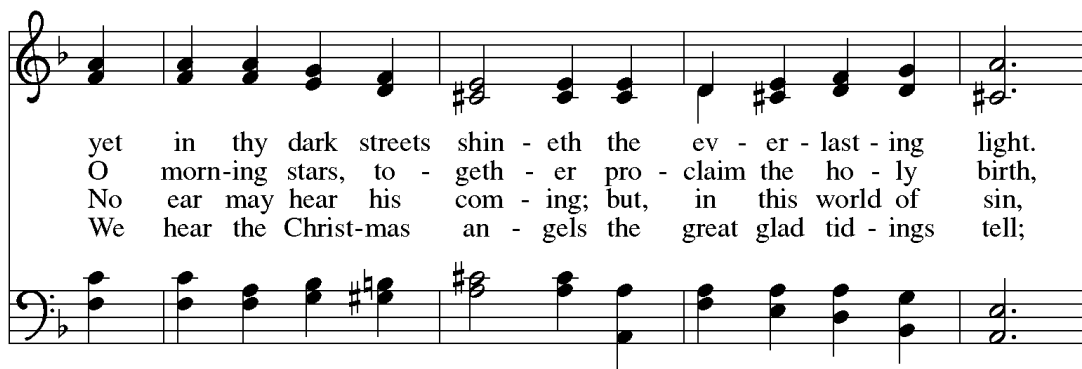


1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv’n!  
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

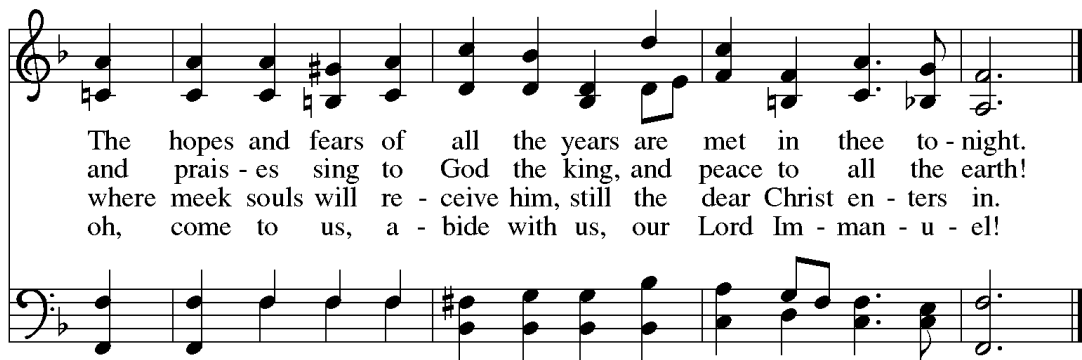




A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.  
 So God im-parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
 O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893  
 Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

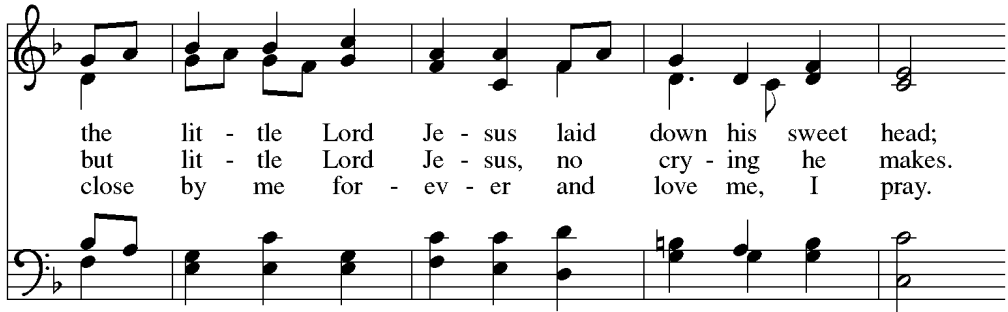


# Away in a Manger

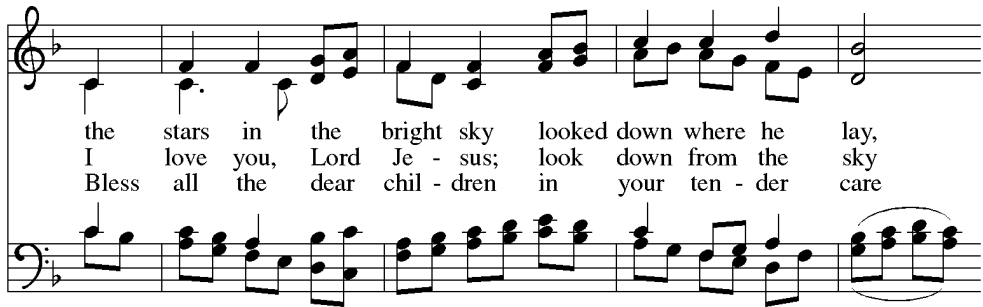
ELW 278



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,  
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,  
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;  
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.  
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
 I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky  
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.  
 and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

*Please stand if you are able.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

P: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

C: **A light no darkness can overcome.**

*As the candles are lit, the overhead lighting within the church will gradually dim. "Silent Night, Holy Night" will be sung during the candle lighting.*

## CANDLE LIGHTING HYMN

## *Silent Night, Holy Night*

ELW 281

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one flat (F major/D minor). The lyrics are written below the notes, with three verses of text provided for each line of music.

Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,  
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher  
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.  
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

*At the conclusion of the hymn, please extinguish your candle. The overhead lights will be turned back on.*

## † THE SENDING †

### CHRISTMAS BLESSING

P: The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter, † bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

C: Amen.

*Please stand if you are able.*

### RECESSIONAL

### *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

ELW 290

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!




1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

## DISMISSAL

P: Glory to God in the highest!

C: **And peace to God's people on earth!**

P: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Postlude on "Gloria"*

**Jason D. Payne**



*Joy to The World*



## 2025 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SPONSORS

Lisa & Horst Bernhard

*In memory of Bob & Charlotte Williams and Andy & Lori Bernhard*

Ed and Cindy Blough

*In memory of Henry & June Duke*

*In memory of Charlie & Nancy Blough*

Dave and Donna Dumeyer

*To the glory of God*

*For World Peace*

Darrell Gerke

*In memory of Barbara*

James Grube

*In memory of my parents*

Steve & Denise Haun

*In memory of Bill & Charlotte Haun and Bill Mattern*

*In honor of Dorothy Mattern*

John and Kathy Hay

*In memory of our parents: Harold & Gladys Ney and Paul &*

*Dorothy Hay*

Scott and Mary Hetrick

*In memory of loved ones*

Sue and Joe Hindes

*In memory of William R. May (Susan's father)*

John Hinkle

*In memory of Pat K. Hinkle, Elwood J. King, and John F. Hinkle Sr.*

Kautter Family

*In memory of Pat*

Adele King

*In honor of our children: Alison, Jessica, and Justin*

*In honor of our grandchildren: Alexander, Emerson, and Leia*

*In memory of our parents and grandparents*

*In memory of our deceased friends, especially Pat Hinkle, Betsy Youndt, Sharon Hollenbach, and Linda Heck*



Nina Laliberte

*In honor of my Zion family*

John & Joanne Marrs

*In honor of our children: Josh, Jenna, and Jamie (and Brandon & Carson)*

Randy Miller

*In honor of my family*

*In memory of my parents and Rae's parents*

Janet Musselman

*In memory of Harry Musselman and Rebecca Miller*

Jan Reeves

*In memory of Arlie*

Pastor Tim and Ann Seitz-Brown

*Keep the Main Thing, the Main Thing*

Cathy & Bob Shirk

*In memory of Delores Derr and Eugene & Phyliss Shirk*

Brenda Stover

*In memory of my mother, Lillian Stover*

Bob and Judy Traup

*In honor of our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren*

*In memory of Mamie, our parents, and Mary Ann*

Bob Wildasin

*In memory of Cleo, Lillian, and Harry Wildasin*

Bob, Kurt, & Nicole Wildasin

*In memory of Barbara Wildasin*

Kurt Wildasin

*In memory of Sarah Wildasin*

Barbara Williams

*In memory of Tom Williams*

Dave and Sue Wise

*In honor and memory of loved ones*

*In thanks for our Zion church family*



**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP WITH  
CAROLS AND COMMUNION  
ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28  
at 9:00 a.m.**



# **CHURCH EVENTS AT A GLANCE**

*Worship: Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.*

## **DECEMBER**

**28: Service of Lessons and Carols (9 a.m.)**

## **JANUARY**

**6: Twelve Days of Christmas Luncheon for Widows & Widowers  
(12 Noon; Zone)**

**8: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

**20: Journeys Wellness Group (6:30 p.m.; Parlor)**

**22: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

## **FEBRUARY**

**12: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

**17: Journeys Wellness Group (6:30 p.m.; Parlor)**

**18: Ash Wednesday Worship (7 p.m.; Sanctuary)**

**26: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

## **MARCH**

**12: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

**15: Elizabethtown College Choir Performance (During Worship)**

**17: Journeys Wellness Group (6:30 p.m.; Parlor)**

**26: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

**29: Palm/Passion Sunday Worship (9 a.m.)**

## **APRIL**

**2: Maundy Thursday Worship (7 p.m.; Sanctuary)**

**3: Good Friday Worship (7 p.m.; Sanctuary)**

**5: Easter Sunday Worship (9 a.m.; Sanctuary)**

**9: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

**21: Journeys Wellness Group (6:30 p.m.; Parlor)**

**23: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

## **MAY**

**2: Lancaster Liederkrantz Concert (4 p.m.; Sanctuary)**

**14: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

**14: Landisville Area Church Choir Festival (7 p.m.; Sanctuary)**

**19: Journeys Wellness Group (6:30 p.m.; Parlor)**

**28: Community Meal (5 p.m.; Social Room)**

## MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers  
Pastor  
Music Director  
Parish Administrator  
Lay Ministry Assistant  
Council President  
Council Vice President  
Sexton

Members of the Congregation  
Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown  
John Landis  
Anne Rankin  
Diane Gerlach  
Kim Paternoster  
Denise Haun  
Tom Miller

## WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, & CONTACT INFORMATION

Worship	Sundays @ 9:00 a.m.
Livestream Link:	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/@zelc_landisvillepa7249">https://www.youtube.com/@zelc_landisvillepa7249</a>
Bible Study Class (Parlor)	Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
Wired Word Class (Zoom)	Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
Children's Class Sundays:	Start in service, then excused until communion
Morning Bible Study	Tuesdays @ 9:00 a.m.
Church Office	717-898-2911
Pastor	717-332-4216
Parish Administrator	717-945-4585
Council President	717-342-3796
Office Email	<a href="mailto:adminzelc@comcast.net">adminzelc@comcast.net</a>
Pastor Email	<a href="mailto:zion1517pastor@gmail.com">zion1517pastor@gmail.com</a>
Council President Email	<a href="mailto:krpkc@aol.com">krpkc@aol.com</a>
Music Director Email	<a href="mailto:johnplandis@gmail.com">johnplandis@gmail.com</a>
Website	<a href="https://www.zionhempfield.net/">https://www.zionhempfield.net/</a>
Mobile App	<a href="https://apps.apple.com/app/id1067488739">https://apps.apple.com/app/id1067488739</a>
Facebook	Zion Lutheran Hempfield
Church Address	85 E. Brandt Blvd. Landisville, PA 17538
Office Address	75 E. Brandt Blvd. Landisville, PA 17538
Online Giving	<a href="https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZM24/home">https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZM24/home</a>



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*\* The Rev. Dr. Mark Oldenburg (retired) from ULS/Gettysburg Seminary: author of the reading introductions*