



To
you
is born this day
a Savior

LUKE 2:11



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

500 West Le Claire Road Eldridge, Iowa
Pastor Carrie Lewis La Plante Pastor Heather Geest

Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2021, 2:00 & 4:00 p.m.

Prelude (2pm)

"Carol of the Bells"

Resounding Joy!

Greeting

Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

Prayer

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.

C **Amen.**

Anthem (2pm)

"God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen"

People of Praise

Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.
⁷His 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Welcoming the Gospel

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

The Christmas Story: Part 1 Luke 2:1-7

A telling of the story of the birth of Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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 engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

Hymn

"Away in a Manger"

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

The Christmas Story: Part 2 Luke 2:8-20

⁸In that region there were shepherds 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 terrified. 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 multitude 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. ¹⁹But 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, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

Christmas Eve Message

Hymn

"I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"

I am so glad each Christmas Eve,
the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth,
and angels sang on earth.

The little child in Bethlehem,
he was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav'n above
to help a world in need.

And so I love each Christmas Eve,
and I love Jesus too;
and that he loves me ev'ry day
I know so well is true.

Prayers of the Church

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offering Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord's Prayer

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Distribution of the Elements

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing.

Those worshiping with us at home may use their own bread and wine or juice for communion. On site, communion will be received at your seats. Having received the elements as you entered worship, you will take the chalice, and when directed by the pastor, you will remove the bottom cover to receive the bread. The pastor will say "Body of Christ given for you," and you will eat the bread. When directed by the pastor, you will remove the top cover to receive the wine or juice. The pastor will say, "Blood of Christ shed for you," and you will drink the wine or juice.

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

Candle Lighting

Please stand. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another. Parents, please assist the children if they are holding a candle.

Hymn of Light

"Silent Night, Holy Night!"

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.

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!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Christmas Eve Prayer

P Loving God, Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate
and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children,
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

C Amen.

Blessing

P May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds, the
determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

The candles are extinguished.

Recessional Hymn

"Joy to the World"

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, 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.

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.

Dismissal

P Glory to God in the highest!

C Peace to God's people on earth!

P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C Thanks be to God.

Christmas Flowers



Thank you to everyone who provided the beautiful poinsettias for this Christmas season.

From:

The Fenn Family
Kelli Goslee-Frank
Jeri Fenn
The Harms Family
Jeanne Willems
Colton & Rebecca Johnson
Anette Tomlinson
Ruth Jurgens
Tonya, Maisie & Melena Knutsen
Pam & Rob White

Stephanie McNamara
Brian & Nina Looney
Carol Roe
Sue Sissel
Carol Marten
Kelly Wyatt
Scott, Carrie, Abby and Maddy La Plante
Dan & Mary Ann Anderson
Mike & Rita Smith
Wyatt Frahm
Jim & Ida Weibel
Darin & Beth Ann Anderson & Family
Myra Kreiter & Children
Mike & Betty Strom
Shari Carter-Steiner
Ron and Nancy Meyer
Cathy Diaz
Kourtney Johnson
Bill & Terri Wittkowski
Tom & Pam Carlson
Mary Moore
Rhonda Webber Family
Kris & Jerry Schwien
David & Diane Cole
John & Keri Suiter
Donna Darnall
Kara & Kevin Zidarich
Ann Kuehl
Jared & Kelly Penning
Katie Dittmer
Ed and Kathy Stoltz
Sara & Joe Nissen

In Honor or Memory Of:

Our Son & Brother, Jake Fenn
Gary & Rosemary Goslee
Father, Jerry Milaicki and Sister, Lisa Kinkin
Those who enrich our lives all year long
Leroy Willems and Loved Ones
Cathy Potter
Ralph Tomlinson & Phyllis Ruth
Elmer & Linda
Leroy & Marilyn Knutsen and Loved Ones
Our Parents, Doc "JB" & Dorothy White
and Bob & Algean Nowachek
Jana Donaubauer
Loved Ones and Anniversary
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Stacey Dircks
Grandparents and Dan La Plante
Family
Loved Ones
Diana Frahm and Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Jack, his parents, and mine
Our Loved Ones in heaven
Our Family
Parents and Siblings
Enrique
Lucas Johnson
50th Anniversary
Loved Ones
Dale and Our Anniversary
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Bud & Janet Nagle
Calvin & Phyllis Hamann and Rick Darnall
Our Dads
Wes Kuehl
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Harlan & Dorothy Mohr