

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

Divine Setting Five

BELL CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

#358 vs 1-4

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: In the still of the night, when all was dark and silent

C: the Light of the world was born in Bethlehem.

P: To us a Child is born!

C: To us a Son is given!

(silence for personal confession)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession.....and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Hark, The Herald Angels Sing”

#380

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray... **C: Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 7:10-14 (ESV)

God provided the faithless King Ahaz with a sign that His promises should be believed. The miracle of the virgin Mary's giving birth to Christ fulfilled this prophecy.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 24

P: The Lord has said to Me, "You are My Son, today I have begotten You."

C: "I have set my King on My holy hill of Zion."

P: The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

Men: Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord?

Women: Or who may stand in His holy place?

C: He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol.

P: He shall receive blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: The Lord has said to Me, "You are My Son, today I have begotten You."

C: "I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion."

EPISTLE

1 John 4:7-16 (ESV)

Love is at the heart of God's essence and nature. In love, He gives the very best of Himself - His own dear Son - for the salvation of the world.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL **Matthew 1:18-25** (ESV)

The birth of Jesus happened just as the Old Testament prophecies had predicted. He is God in human flesh, our Immanuel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew the first chapter.

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

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

APOSTLES CREED

The Second Article with Luther's Explanation LSB p 322

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: *What does this mean?*

All: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

#368

SERMON

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“What Child Is This”

#370

CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

P: Oh Lord, hear our prayer.

C: **Hear us, O Prince of Peace.**

LORD’S PRAYER

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

P: The Lord is your light. He is your life and salvation.

C: **Thanks be to Christ, our light.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

#379

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ Poinsettia plants given in love~

All of Our Loved Ones given by Loyd & Marlene Erks

Son, Philip Gudgel given by Pastor & Bonnie Gudgel

Gary Sullivan, Brad Ehlers, Norma & Clyde Ehlers given by Sue Sullivan

Ethan Bulgrin, Edgar & Esther Bulgrin, Walter & Evelyn Luebbe, Marlowe Luebbe given by Jim & Pauline Bulgrin

Happy Birthday Jesus! given by Tim & Colleen Classen

Memory of Hannaman and Hiedorn Families given by Caroline Heidorn

Donald Gruber given by Florence, Gale & Carol, Wayne & Denise Gruber

Bennet Samuel Morris, Gerald & Carol Niebling, Paul & Lois Brauer given by Bob & Kathy Brauer

Dustin Pane given by Mike & Jo Franks

Richard and Kenneth Rieger given by LaDean Rieger

Linda Bennett, Brian Utter given by OJ, Jami, Caleb, Noah, Ascha & Elijah Utter

Rebecca Renner-Grandma of Josephine & Clinton Turnbull given by Stacie Turnbull

All of our Loved Ones given by Adam, Kellen, Hesston & Hallie Hohman

Family, Friends, Karen's Sister and Karen's Dad given by Randy and Karen Dvorak

Aloyce & Pam Volzke given by Brian, Allyson, Cissanie, Derekka, Drayden, Channley & Amaurra Krohe

Paul Heidorn given by Tim and Jocelyn Heidorn

The Volzke families who have gone before us. Hollis & Justin Volzke given by Larry and Jayne Griffiths

Eugene Wiese given by Ashtynn, Blake and Beckham Redfield, Dax and baby Kapple

Eugene Wiese given by Susan Wiese, Kiley & Tyler Kapple, Abby & Andrew Redfield, Connor & Conor Wiese, and Noah Wiese

All of our Loved Ones given by Ewald & Edith Fehlhafer

Loved Ones already celebrating Christmas in Heaven given by Verna Neujahr

Ethan Bulgrin given by Kurt, Liz, Molly, Owen and Emmett Bulgrin