



TO + YOU
IS + BORN + A
S.A.V.I.O.R



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., & 11:00 p.m.
Pastor Stephen Bond

Prelude

Musical Guests

4:00 p.m. Emily Pollock, Pastor Steve Bond, and Chad Ackerman
7:00 p.m. Kevin Steinman, Pastor Steve Bond, and Amanda Worthington
11:00 p.m. Organ Selections, Eric Dickey

Processional Hymn *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Christmas Dialog

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

C Amen

P The word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

C Oh, come let us worship him.

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

P Those who lived in a land of deep darkness-on them light has shined.

C We have seen Christ's glory, the glory of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

C What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

P Today Christ is born; today salvation has appeared.

C Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

Hymn of Praise

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

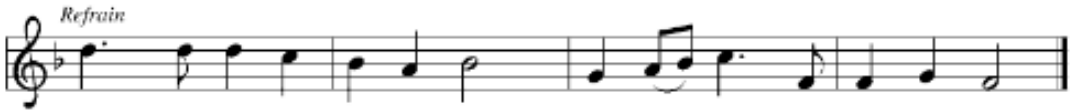
- 1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
- 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
- 3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Refrain
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

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.**

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

- 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.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The 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-controlled, 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.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

“Love Has Come”

ELW 292





you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Luke 2:1-7

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.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

Hymn

“Away in a Manger”

ELW 277



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



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Luke 2:8-14

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!”

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
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!

Luke 2:15-20

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.

L The Word of the Lord **C** Thanks be to God!

Sermon

4:00 p.m.

7:00 & 11:00 p.m.

"Unwrapping the Story"

"The Last Thin Place"

Pastor Stephen Bond

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 tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - 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



ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The Prayers

P Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

AM Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM The seas roar and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land and bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to people experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

AM The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into people who are zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C And also with you!**

Offering of our Gifts

*** We respond joyously with our gifts this Christmas Eve! Thanks be to God!
The ushers will be passing the offering plates ***

Hymn

“What Child Is This”

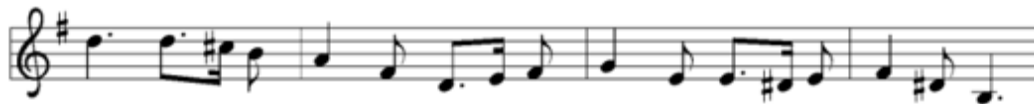
ELW 296



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Offering Prayer

AM 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 MEAL

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 our thanks and praise!

****The Eucharistic Prayer Continues.....**

The Words of Institution

In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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. In the same manner, 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 sins. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray, **C** **Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is 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.**

Communion Hymns

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

ELW 294



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

ELW 276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

“The First Noel”

ELW 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

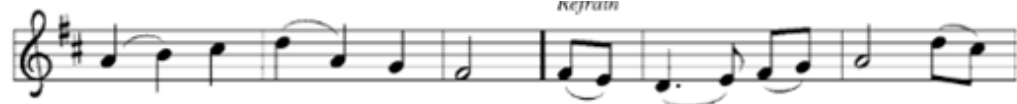


cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin - ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

ELW 290

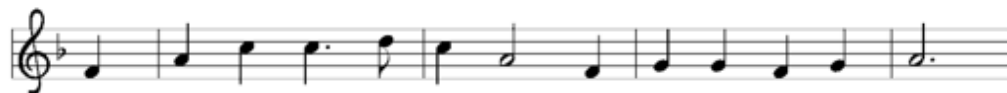
Refrain



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;

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.

Prayer after Communion

AM Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. **Amen.**

The Gospel of the Incarnation and the Candle Lighting: John 1:1-14

The minister, taking a large candle, lights it from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks. The ushers light their candles from the pastor's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted but is always held upright when giving light to another.

The Prayer

PO Almighty God, who by the birth of your holy child Jesus has given us a great light to dawn upon our darkness grant, we pray you, that in his light we may see light to the end of our days; and bestow upon us, we beseech you, that most excellent Christmas gift of love to all people, so that the likeness of your Son may

be formed in us, and that we may have the ever-brightening hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our lord. Amen

Hymn

“Night of Silent -Silent Night”

ELW 281



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,



Hold - er 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.

11:00 p.m. VS 1 – Choir Only, VS 2 & 3 Choir and Congregation

*Congregation please extinguish your candles as the lights go up.

The Blessing

P The God of love, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Joy to the World”

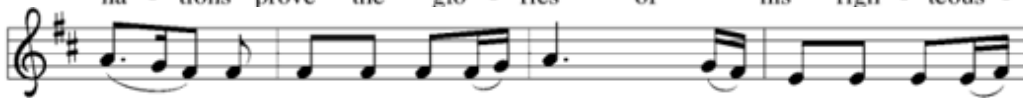
ELW 267



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Christ is born! **Thanks be to God.**



POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

Michael & Cammie Abraham

In honor of our children, Thomas & Emma

Chad & Eryn Ackerman

In honor of our parents

Rose & Doug Ackerman

*In memory of Paul & Marjorie Albrechta,
Henry & Eula Ackerman, and in honor of
our children and grandson*

Jeff & Tina Baden

In memory of Melissa Greear

Sandy Boehly

In memory of family members we've lost

Lorri & Matt Britsch

*In memory of John & Mary Lou Bates
and Delbert & Susan Britsch*

Sue Brown

In memory of our parents and spouses

Debie Carman

*In memory of our daughter, Debbie Brown
Jagodzinski*

Matt & Lainie Davis

In honor of our daughter, Ava

Sandy Detrick & Mike Welch

*To our parents Paul & Val Buehler and
Roman & Jo Welch*

Doris Disher

In loving memory of Les and our parents

The Downs Family

To the Glory of God

Bev Fischer

In memory of Donie Fischer

Jim & Cheryl Fischer

*In honor of our daughter and
granddaughters*

The Gebhart Family

*In memory of Donna Thorne and Mary
Miller*

Ron & Elaine Hetherwick

Brian & Kim Jones

Wayne & Becky King

Eunice Kronberg

Marlene LaChine

Jim & Annette Merritt

Marita Deitering-Perkins

David & Sharon Prueter

Chris & Natalie Rilling

Dave & Sarah Rockwell

Dana & Tim Schmidt

Don & Karen Schroeder

Jim & Joan Schwartz

Bonnie Smigelski

Emily Steinman

Kati Meyers & Kristi Sutter

The Swagler family

Barb Thober

Diane Wielinski

Carol Wiemken

In honor of our children and grandchildren

*In memory of Frank & Suzanne D'Angelo,
Bob & Jan Jones, Elanore Roczicki, Cyndi
Hyde, and Jack & Barb Hyde*

In honor of families and friends

*In honor of the Heckert, Fifer & Stirn
families*

*In honor of daughter, Michelle & Son,
Lonnie*

*In honor of the Nofzinger and Merritt
Families*

In memory of my son, Gregory

In memory of loved ones, family, and friends

*In memory of paternal parents, maternal
parents, and to the Glory of God*

In thanks to God for family and friends

*In memory of David Schultz and in honor of
and love for our ten grandchildren*

*In memory of Bob Schroeder, Sandy
Schroeder, and Dan Schroeder*

*In memory of William & Vera Smith, Art &
Dorothy Schwartz*

*In memory of Walter & Margaret Smigelski,
and Russ & Betty Gleason*

*In honor of the joy of our children, Nathan
David, and Cody James*

In memory of our mother and grandparents

In honor of our loved ones

In memory of John Thober

To the Glory of God

To memories of Christmas past

“The Gift of Grace”—a song for Christmas Eve 2024
(paired with “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”)

Come out to the edge of town
Step into the trembling night air
Sent by the angels, a crowd gathers round.
Look for the child, God will meet you there.

Go, out from familiar fields
Leave behind your flocks and your fear
The wounds of the world all begin to be healed
Cradled in hay, God is waiting here.

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold
“Peace on the earth, good will to all from heaven’s all gracious king!”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

Come, see for yourselves the birth
God almighty has come face to face
This is the meeting of heaven and earth
Laid in a manger, the Gift of Grace.

Wishing you a Christmas filled with peace, joy, and love. May the warmth of family and the kindness of friends surround you this season, and may your heart be lifted by hope and grace. As we celebrate the birth of Christ, may His light guide your way, bringing you blessings of health, happiness, and prosperity in the year ahead.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you and your loved ones!

Christmas Season Worship
Sunday, December 29th, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

*** The church office will be closed on December 25, 31, and January 1 ***



TO YOU
IS BORN

A SAVIOR