

The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
gracelutheranrialto.com
Pastor Bill Maggard
Pastor Daniel A. Holm



Welcome to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are a loving congregation who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and each other. We welcome you in the name of the Lord!

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an usher.

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

Sunday	Divine Service w/The Lord's Supper	9:00 a.m.
	Online Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

**Per Re-opening Plan other classes
are suspended at this time.**

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday

**Isaiah 11:1-5 † Galatians 4:1-7
† Luke 2:22-40 †**

Sermon: Pastor Maggard

The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord
Divine Service III - Abbreviated

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.
who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities 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.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Psalm Tone B



Introit

Psalm 24:1, 3-5

The LORD | said to me,*

“You are my Son; today I have be- | gotten you.

As for me, I have | set my King*

on Zion, my | holy hill.”

The earth is the LORD’s and the full- | ness thereof,*

the world and those who | dwell therein.

Who shall ascend the hill | of the LORD?*

And who shall stand in His | holy place?

He who has clean hands and a | pure heart,*

who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not
swear de- | ceitfully.

He will receive blessing | from the LORD*

and righteousness from the God of his sal- | vation.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord,
have mercy upon us.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

The LORD has made known His sal- | vation;*

**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the
| nations.**

Epistle

1 John 4:7-16

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In 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. ¹⁰In 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. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse

Psalm 2:7

Alleluia. The LORD said to me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten you." **Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call His name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called His name Jesus.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth

and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the
living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
 From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
 As prophets long have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
 Amid the cold of winter
When half-spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
 The rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it,
 The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
 She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
 With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
 The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
 From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary,
 Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
 Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray
 To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day.

Stand

Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
And take not Thy Holy spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
And uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

Prayer of the Church

let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, have mercy.

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising
You and saying:
**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are
full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
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.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the
world have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the
world, have mercy upon us,

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

Distribution

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
 How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
 The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
 Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary
 And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
 Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
 Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
 And peace to all on earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently
 The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
 The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
 But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
 The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
 Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
 Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
 The great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Communion Hymn #2 -

What Child is This

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- 1 What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
 On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
 While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ, the King,
 Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
 The Babe, the Son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies He in such mean estate,
 Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
 The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
 The Cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, Hail the Word made flesh,
 The babe, the son of Mary!
- 3 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!

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

Amen.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
And His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord be you,
And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Lord Bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen.

- 1 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.
- 2 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!
- 3 Silent night, Holy night!
 Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
 With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Announcements

- ➔ **Christmas Day service is tomorrow, Friday, December 25th at 10:00 a.m.**
 - ➔ **Counter meeting after service on Sunday, December 27th. Please see Diane Kline if you have questions.**
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Make a joyful noise to the LORD,
all the earth, break forth into joyous song
and sing praises!

Psalm 98:4

SERVING TODAY

Organist

Gail James

Elder

Kurt Wampole

Communion

Ron Pickinpaugh

Elder

Altar Guild

Sherry Herrera, Gail Picado

