



Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2020
4:00 p.m.



PRELUDE

A Very COVID Christmas

David Bugher

WELCOME

We are so glad you're here to welcome the Christ child with us!

Bring your candles and set your table for communion
as we receive Jesus Christ this tonight in song, prayer, story, and candlelight.

On this night, wherever you may be, we raise our voices
and sing familiar carols to worship the newborn king.
Come, let us adore him.

GATHERING SONGS

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*

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

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

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

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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 newborn king!"*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!

*Hail the Sun 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 newborn king!"*

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.*



PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all creation and God with us, you made this holy night radiate hope and joy through the birth of Jesus Christ. Help us to listen closely to the angels' song so that we can hear you and bring your dream for this world into a reality.

AMEN.

SCRIPTURE

The Christmas Story

Luke 1 & 2

*ELC's Confirmation & High School Youth
Adapted from The Living Word, by Artist Joe Davis*

SONG

Jesus What a Wonderful Child

*Jesus, Jesus
Oh what a wonderful child
Jesus, Jesus
so holy, meek and mild
New life, new hope
the Child will bring
Listen, to the angels sing
Glory, glory, glory
Let the heavens ring*

SERMON

Rev. Christina Garrett Klein

SONG

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

*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 heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world.*

*Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.*

*For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years,
Shall come the Age of Gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song
Which now the angels sing*

PRAYERS

Joining our voices with the song of the story, together we pray...

We pray for the shepherds singing, Jesus Christ is born...

We pray for your creation who sings, Joy to the World...

We pray with the angels singing, Peace on earth...

We pray for Mary's song of the Magnificat, singing of justice and revolution for the world, and for Mary's melodies of comfort to her newborn... Heal all those who are sick, those who grieve, and those who are hurting, especially those we name before you now:

We take a moment to pray silently or aloud

We pray for the sound of a new baby's cry...

We pray and give thanks to all the saints who witness to you singing, Glory to God in the highest...

Unite these voices in songs of praise and rejoicing as we lift these and all of our prayers and dreams to you, knowing that you hear them. **AMEN.**

MEAL

This night not only are we united in song, but we are also united at the table, the tables and worship spaces in your homes, and the table here, where God is known for using ordinary earthly things like bread and wine (or juice) to make extraordinary promises. Just as Jesus showed up in the manger this night so many years ago, we know that Jesus shows up right now beyond our limitations, to meet us in this separation with a Spirit that unites, to feed us with the bread of life.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

+ + + *Receive the Meal* + + +

All are welcome to receive healing, grace, and forgiveness through Christ's body and blood this evening. During the communion song, those of you in households with one another are invited to communion one another.

If you don't have someone in the room with you while you receive communion, hear these words as the external word of grace and invitation:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

We pray and reflect on this simple meal that nourishes God's community across time and space.

REFLECTION SONG O Holy Night

*O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;*

Chorus

*Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
O night, O holy night, O night divine.*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is Love and His gospel is Peace;
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
And in his name all oppression shall cease,
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful Chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise his Holy name!*

Chorus

*Christ is the Lord, then ever! ever praise we!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!*

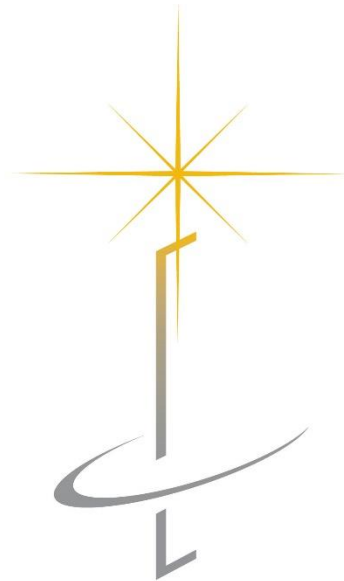
On such a holy night as this, Jesus illuminated the world. This year, we light candles in our homes to remind us that Christ is the light of the world, and a light that goes with us – wherever we are. Be it a flicker or a blaze or darkness, Christ dwells among us, his divine glow within us. It is what we carry into the world. We light our candles and sing Silent Night.

SILENT 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.*



BLESSING

May God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the life-giving Spirit who shines on you, bless you and keep you this day and forever.

AMEN.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news of Jesus' birth!

Thanks be to God! Merry Christmas!

Thank you so much for joining us for worship today!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

God bless you and your families this season!!

Stay safe! Be well! and Merry Christmas!!!!

See you for worship Saturday, December 26th for worship (pre-recorded) at 5pm and for a service of lessons and carols from our Metropolitan Chicago Synod 10:00am on Sunday, December 27th!



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Our Mission:

Transforming lives by sharing a saving faith in Jesus Christ
and living the Gospel through service

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, connect with our ministries,
meet with one of our pastors, or learn more about ELC and how to join, feel free to
call or email us. You are always welcome here.

+ Pastor Christina Klein

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Thank you for worshipping with us today as we seek to be in community with one another while minimizing physical contact. As a gentle reminder, please continue to wash your hands for the recommended 20 seconds, wear a mask and create safe boundaries through physical distancing.

We know that God is with us and God is at work, wherever we worship. With coronavirus cases on the rise, we will continue worshipping online at this time. Please be vigilant and check your email, Facebook, etc., for additional notifications and updates in the coming weeks, and contact the church council (council@edgebrooklutheran.org) with any concerns.

Stay safe and be well! God's peace to you!!