



Lessons and Carols for Christmas



December 31, 2023

Christmas 1



Christ Lutheran Church
9212 Taylorsville Rd.
Jeffersontown, KY 40299
502-267-5082/christlu@bellsouth.net
www.christlutheranlouisville.com

WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS who worship with us today. We are glad you are here and we invite you to worship with us again and often. If you have no church home, we invite you to consider Christ Lutheran Church. Please sign the attendance card and place it in the offering plate.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus Christ is the host at the table of Holy Communion and invites all to come. Here the real presence of Jesus meets us in the form of bread and wine. In this sacrament he offers himself to us for the forgiveness of sin and the promise of eternal life. You can come forward to the Communion Rail to receive the Holy Communion or if you choose, the Holy Communion kits are available in the narthex, for in-person worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The prelude is a time to prepare for worship. When the prelude begins, please enter the sanctuary prayerfully and reverently. Please silence your cell phones and take this time to quiet your minds and voices.



WiFi: CLCChurch **PW:** peace9212

Facebook:

Christ Lutheran Church@CLCLouisville

YouTube:

<https://rb.gy/lmzlco>

Rev. Dr. Bimen Limbong, **Pastor**
Pr. George Mercer, **Pastoral Assistant**
Ann Colbert Wade, **Director of Music**
Heather C. Harding, **Church Administrator**

Holy, Holy, Holy, arr. © Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications; Kyrie Eleison; Text and music © 1989 Dakota Road Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress; Mason Ave. S. Chicago, IL 60638 Telephone: 800-663-1501 Fax: 708-458-4940; Of My Hands Text and music by Ray

Repp. © Otter Creek Music

Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Prelude: *Twas in the Moon of Wintertime & Go Tell It on the Mountain* Manz

Welcome

Stand

Gathering Song: *Once in Royal David's City*

#269



Dialogue

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

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

P Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness,
on them light has shined.

C **We have beheld Christ's glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

P To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C **In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

Opening Prayer

P Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit



Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Reading 1: Isaiah 9:2-7 *God promises a king*

² The 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 our Lord

Hymn: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* (stanzas 1 & 2)

#272

Reading 2: Micah 5:2-5 *The king will come from Bethlehem*

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers. -The Word of our Lord

Reading 3: **Luke 1:26-38** *The annunciation to Mary*

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. -The Word of our Lord

Reading 4: **Luke 2:1-10** *The birth of Jesus*

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. 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. -The Word of our Lord

Hymn: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

#276

Reading 5: Luke 2:8-15

The shepherds go to see the Savior

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"Glor y 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." -The Word of our Lord

Hymn: *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

#290





Reading 6: Matthew 2:7-12

The magi follow the star

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. -The Word of our Lord

Hymn: *What Child Is This*

#296

Reading 7: Matthew 2:13-18 The slaughter of the holy innocents

³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." ¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." -The Word of our Lord

Instrumental Response

Stand

Reading 8: John 1:1-14 *The mystery of the incarnation*

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. -The Gospel of our Lord

Hymn: *He Came Down*

#253

- C** **Responsive Prayer**
P Glory to God in the highest,
C and peace to **God's people on earth.**
P Blessed are you, Prince of peace.
 You rule the earth with truth and justice.
C **Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**
P Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.
C **Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**
P Blessed are you, Son of God.
 You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.
C **Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament**
 that we may bear your light to all the world.

Sit



Offering: *For on-line worshipers please mail to the office at 9212 Taylorsville Road, 40299 or contact the office for instructions for direct deposit. You may also use our on-line app at tithe.ly or scan QR code on the right)*
Stand



SCAN ME

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray.

A Merciful Father,

C everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your heart.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

The 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.**



Sit

Distribution

P Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
C **Have mercy on us.**
P Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
C **Have mercy on us.**
P Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
C **Grant us peace.**
C **Amen**

Stand

Post Communion Prayer

P Let us pray...
C God of wonder, we give thanks that you have fed us once again with this foretaste of the feast to come. Strengthen us through this gift to serve our neighbors with joy, that all may come to see your glory reflected in the lives of your people, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Blessing and Dismissal

P Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**
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.**



Post Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in faith and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Hymn: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

#270

Postlude: *Noel Angevin*

Franck



Church Office Hours:

Monday through Friday

8:30AM - 4:30 PM

If you wish to contact Pastor Limbong
please call the church at (502-267-5082)
or his cell phone: (502-553-6025)

His scheduled days off are Friday and Saturday

Except during an emergency

Office Email Address:

Church_office@christlutheranlouisville.com

Visit our church website:

www.christlutheranlouisville.com

Or scan the QR code



Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006897. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.