

Christ The King Evangelical Lutheran Church

“To know... To teach... To share Christ”

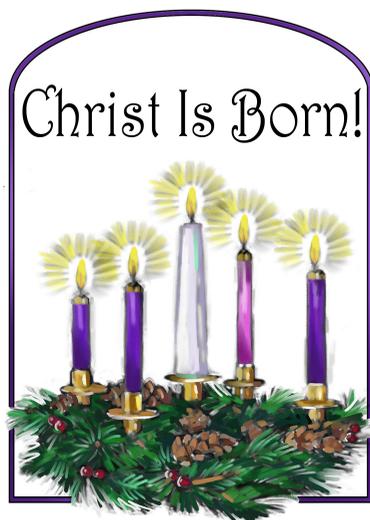
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**The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
*December 24, 2018***

Our Worship Tonight

Welcome! We live by faith, not by sight. We live not for this world, but for the world to come. As believers in an unbelieving world, we are very unusual – so very unlike the world around us. We need encouragements to continue in the Christian faith and to remember that both faith and the promises it clings to are purely from God’s grace. We pray your faith is strengthened during our Christmas hymn festival!

5th Candle - (white) The Christ Candle

The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’” ~ John 1:29

Tonight is the 200th anniversary of the writing of “Silent Night.” This hymn has been one of the favorites and most treasured of all Christmas carols for generations of Christians. The verses of this carol were first sung on Christmas Eve 1818 at St. Nicholas parish church in Oberndorf, a village in the Austrian Empire.

“Silent Night” grasps the flavor of the Christmas account so well. It is a quiet, meditative hymn that leaves us with peace and joy in Christ. But perhaps you were unaware that the original version of Silent Night had six verses. Tonight, we begin our worship with those verses, translated from the original German version. Then we close our service by singing our familiar verses of this Christmas favorite.

Serving In Worship Tonight

Minister
Organist and Accompanist
Choir Director
Videographer

Pastor Alan W. Gumm
Sharon Martin
Jonette Jordan and Linda Martin
Wally Jordan and Larry Martin

Soli Deo Gloria! Order of Worship

Advent Candle Lighting Carol

Choir: "Light The Candle"

Opening Hymn

"Silent Night"

Silent night! Holy night!
Brings to earth saving light;
Grace fulfilled to us is giv'n,
From the golden heights of heav'n,
Comes in lowly birth,
Comes in lowly birth.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shows to each his great might.
Love descends from heaven above,
Dwells with us in brotherly love,
Hailed by nations afar,
Hailed by nations afar.

Silent night! Holy night!
Grants us grace, from sin's plight;
Stills God's wrath as was foretold
By his prophets in days of old.
Peace, good-will to all men,
Peace, good-will to all men.

The Litany

M: Silent Night, holy night,

C: All the world marvels tonight.

M: Behold a child, yet a king,

C: A promise fulfilled, the angels sing.

M: Mary watches with tender care,

C: God's own Son, so meek and fair.

M: Love beams from His face so dear,
C: As the hour of salvation draws near.

M: Sing of love, sing of life,
C: The Prince of Peace, shall end all strife.

M: Because of our Father's giving grace,
C: Salvation's won – for our sinful race!

M: Because of our Savior's dying love,
C: A home is prepared, in heaven above.

M: Because of the Spirit's tender call,
C: We praise our Savior, Lord of all.

M: To us a child of hope is born, to us a Son is giv'n!
C: The Wonderful, the Counselor, the Prince of Peace from heav'n!

M: Sleep in heavenly peace.
C: Sleep in heavenly peace.

Prayer

M: Almighty God, You made this holy night shine with the brightness of Jesus, the true light. Grant that, as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold Him in all His glory in the life to come; through Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

God's Word

Old Testament

Isaiah 9:2-7

For to us a child is born.

² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. ³ You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder. ⁴ For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them,

the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. ⁵ Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Hymn

CW 42 "Come, Your Hearts And Voices Raising"

God's Word

Epistle

Titus 2:11-14

We wait for the glorious appearing of Jesus Christ.

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope-- the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Hymn

CW 46 "Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We"

God's Word

Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

How the birth of Jesus Christ came about.

Please Stand

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to his own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged

to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. ⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Hymn

CW 67 "What Child Is This"

Christmas Message

"What If Jesus Had Never Been Born?"

Luke 2:11

Offering

Christmas Prayers

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.

The Litany

M: In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God; the Word was God!

C: In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.

M: Jesus is the Light of the World!

C: He is light; in Him there is no darkness at all.

M: As we walk in the light, we have fellowship with one another!

C: The blood of Jesus - our Emmanuel - has purified us from all sin.

M: Once we were darkness.

C: Now we are light in the Lord!

Prayer

M: O Holy Spirit, drive away the darkness, so use the message of Jesus, our Savior, to drive sin and doubt out of our hearts. Lead us -- like the shepherds -- to share the message that God is again at one with us, because Jesus became one of us. As we've rejoiced at Your first coming, lead us to long for Your second coming. Come, Emmanuel!

C: Amen

The Blessings of the Newborn Savior

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

C: Amen

Closing Candlelight

The church is darkened as we light the candles for our closing hymn. For the lighting of your candle, the ushers will take their flames from the pastor who gets his light from the Christ Candle. The ushers will light the candle at the center aisle. Then light your neighbor's candle. (When lighting your unlit candle, tip it to the lit candle. When your candle is lit always keep it upright so that wax will not fall to the floor. Parents need to supervise children closely. As the lighting nears completion, Silent Night is sung. **Never tip a lit candle!**

Silent Night

Please Stand as lights are dimmed by the ushers.

Choir Sings:

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht,
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh

Congregation and Choir Sing:

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 thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent Prayer

Announcements.