

# Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022

3 pm



*279 Years of  
"Joyously proclaiming the good news of God's love"*

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

SPRING CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Founded in 1743



## Christmas Eve Family Candlelight

### PRELUDES

"Christmas Eve Reflection"

by Franklin Ritter

"From Bethlehem Hills"

By Mary Helen Moorehead, Arr. J. B. Calkin

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Text: Medieval Latin carol; Music: German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall - **Bell Choir**

### The Greeting Announcement

*Those able, please stand*

### Call to Worship

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people.

For unto us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

**C: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!**

### Gathering Song

"Oh Come, All Ye Faithful"

ELW# 283

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
Oh, come ye, Oh, come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels.

R. **Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

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.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### A READING FROM SAINT MATTHEW 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah<sup>[a]</sup> took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son,<sup>[b]</sup> and he named him Jesus.



## Hymn

### "O Little Town of Bethlehem"- #279 ELW

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.

## A READING FROM SAINT LUKE 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



## Hymn

### "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" - #270 ELW - 1st Verse

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!"

## A READING FROM SAINT LUKE 2:8-20

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When 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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**HYMN**

**"Away in A Manger"**

**ELW# 277**

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**MESSAGE**

*Those able, please stand*



**HYMN**

**"Go Tell it on the Mountain"- ELW #290**

- R: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!
1. While shepherds kept their watching, o'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light.
  2. The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth
  3. Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

*Please be seated*

**THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

*Let us share the peace with one another*

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**December 24, 2022**

**Luke 2:19** –But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

*The Messiah is born, so let us celebrate! Long after the presents have been opened and the decorations packed away, the amazing gift of Jesus remains. Let us ponder the story in our hearts and share this very good news wherever we go.*

*Please be seated*

**OFFERING with Special Music**

**"Believe"**

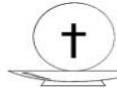
Words and Music by Glen Ballard and Alan Sillvestri,  
**Viola Solo: Emily Hoshaw**

*Those able, please stand*

## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**P: Amen.**



## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



*Believing in the real presence of Christ, this church practices communion hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper. Parent(s)/Grandparent(s) will place their hands on untutored young people for a blessing given by the Pastor. The response when receiving the bread and wine could be: "Amen" or "I believe." (Grape juice and Gluten Free wafers are available)*

## 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 him thanks and praise.**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, blessed it, 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.

Again, after supper, he took the cup gave thanks, and give it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for your and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

P. Together we pray the prayer our Lord taught us:

**C: 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table where Christ meets you. Eat, rejoice, and be glad!

**C: Amen.**

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*"The First Noel"*

**ELW # 300**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

**ELW # 289**

*Please stand*

*After all have returned to their places, the Pastor shall say:*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

A: God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

*After the prayer, the Pastor, taking a large candle, which symbolizes Christ as the light of the world, then says:*

P: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you...

And nations shall come to your light, and to the brightness of your rising.

Jesus said, "I have come as Light into the world, that whoever believes in Me may not remain in darkness...The Light is with you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you...While you have the Light, believe in the Light."

***The Ushers pass the light to the first worshipper in each pew, who in turn passes it on. The lighted candle is NEVER TILTED, but is always upright when giving light to another.***



### **Hymn**

### **"Silent Night, Holy Night"**

**ELW# 281**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Silent night, holy night!<br/>All is calm, all is bright<br/>round yon virgin mother and child.<br/>Holy Infant, so tender and mild.<br/>Sleep in heavenly peace,<br/>sleep in heavenly peace.</p> <p>2. Silent night, holy night!<br/>Shepherds quake at the sight;<br/>glories stream from heaven afar,<br/>heav'nly host sing, Alleluia!<br/>Christ, the Savior, is born!<br/>Christ, the Savior, is born!</p> | <p>3. Silent night, holy night!<br/>Son of God, love's pure light<br/>radiant beams from your holy face,<br/>with the dawn of redeeming grace,<br/>Jesus, Lord, at your birth,<br/>Jesus, Lord, at your birth.</p> |
|---|--|

### **Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
 Let earth receive her king, let every 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.
2. 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  
 Re-peat, re-peat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground  
 He comes to make his blessings flow, far as the curse is found.  
 Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
 The glory of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
 And wonders of his love, and won-ders, and won-ders of his love.

**Dismissal**

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**"Gesu Bambino"**

Tune: Pietro Yon, Arr. Juliet Calkins

**Bulletins Sponsored by Laura Clark**

In honor and memory of Ronald B. Clark, a wonderful husband, father,  
 and grandfather by Laura Clark and family.

**Worship Assistants – 3 pm Service**

Kyle Isleib	Assistant Minister/ Communion
	Lay Reader/Communion
Adele Ryan	Usher 1
Izabella Mastrangelo	Usher 2
Thomas Mastrangelo	Acolyte
Keira Ramondo	Acolyte/Communion
Jayson Isleib	Crucifer

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**A Congregation of the Southeastern Pa. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**The Reverend Tina Mackie**  
**Confidential email: [pastor@zionofspringcity.org](mailto:pastor@zionofspringcity.org)**

Erin Galamba, Office Manager  
Shawn Rogers, Sexton & Christian Education Director  
Jack Florio, Treasurer  
Daniel L. Bauman, Cemetery Superintendent & Maintenance Manager  
Lori Hoshaw, Music Director  
Amy Kirk, Social Media Editor

Worship Services: 9:00 am & 10:30am  
Church Telephone: 610-948-3323 \*\* e-mail: [church@zionofspringcity.org](mailto:church@zionofspringcity.org)  
Web site: [www.zionofspringcity.org](http://www.zionofspringcity.org) \*\* Facebook: ZionofSpringCity

**Zion Lutheran Pre-School** : Dawn Platchek, Director , Phone : 610-948-3440, e-mail: [info@zionlutheranpreschool.com](mailto:info@zionlutheranpreschool.com)

Online giving link: <https://www.zionofspringcity.org/electronic-giving/>

*If you wish to make an electronic offering at this time, please visit our website (listed above) to make your contribution.*

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"**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**" -Text: Medieval Latin carol; Music: German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall- **Bell Choir** © 1996 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of Lorenz Publishing Company, All Rights Reserved. ONE LICENSE #400720-M

"**O Come, All Ye Faithful- #283 ELW- 1st Verse** Text and Music attr. John Francis Wade

"**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing**"- **#270 ELW- 1st Verse** Text: Charles Wesley. Music: Felix Mendelssohn; arr. William H. Cummings

"**O Little Town of Bethlehem**"- **#279 ELW** Text: Phillips Brooks, Music: Lewis H. Redner

"**Away in a Manger**"- **ELW #277** Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: James R. Murray

"**Go Tell it on the Mountain**"- **ELW #290** Text: **African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., stanzas, alt. Music: African American spiritual**

"**Believe**"- Words and Music by Glen Ballard and Alan Sillvestri, **Viola Solo, Emily Hoshaw** © 2004 Warner Olive Music LLC (ASCAP)/Jobanala Music (ASCAP) and Aerostation Corporation/Universal- MCA Music Publishing, Used by Permission

"**Silent Night, Holy Night**"- **ELW #281, Vs. 1, 2, 3**, Text: Joseph Mohr; tr. John F. Young, Music: Franz Gruber,

"**Joy To the World**"- **ELW #267- All Verses** Text: Isaac Watts, Music: English melody; arr. Lowell Mason,

"**The First Noel**" -**#300 ELW--** Text: **English traditional** Music: **English traditional**; arr. **John Stainer**

"**Angels We Have Heard on High**"- Text: **French carol**; tr. **H.F. Hemy**, Music: **French carol**; arr. **Edward S. Barnes**

"**Gesu Bambino**", Tune: Pietro Yon, Arr. Juliet Calkins © 1996 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of Lorenz Publishing Company, All Rights Reserved. ONE LICENSE #400720-M

**THE CONGREGATION OF ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH** welcomes all guests worshipping with us this Christmas Eve. We invite you to return to worship with us again! You are always welcome to join our Church Family for faith, fellowship, and fun.

Our Worship Hours are on Sundays at 9:00 am/10:30am. We hope you will join us!



We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!