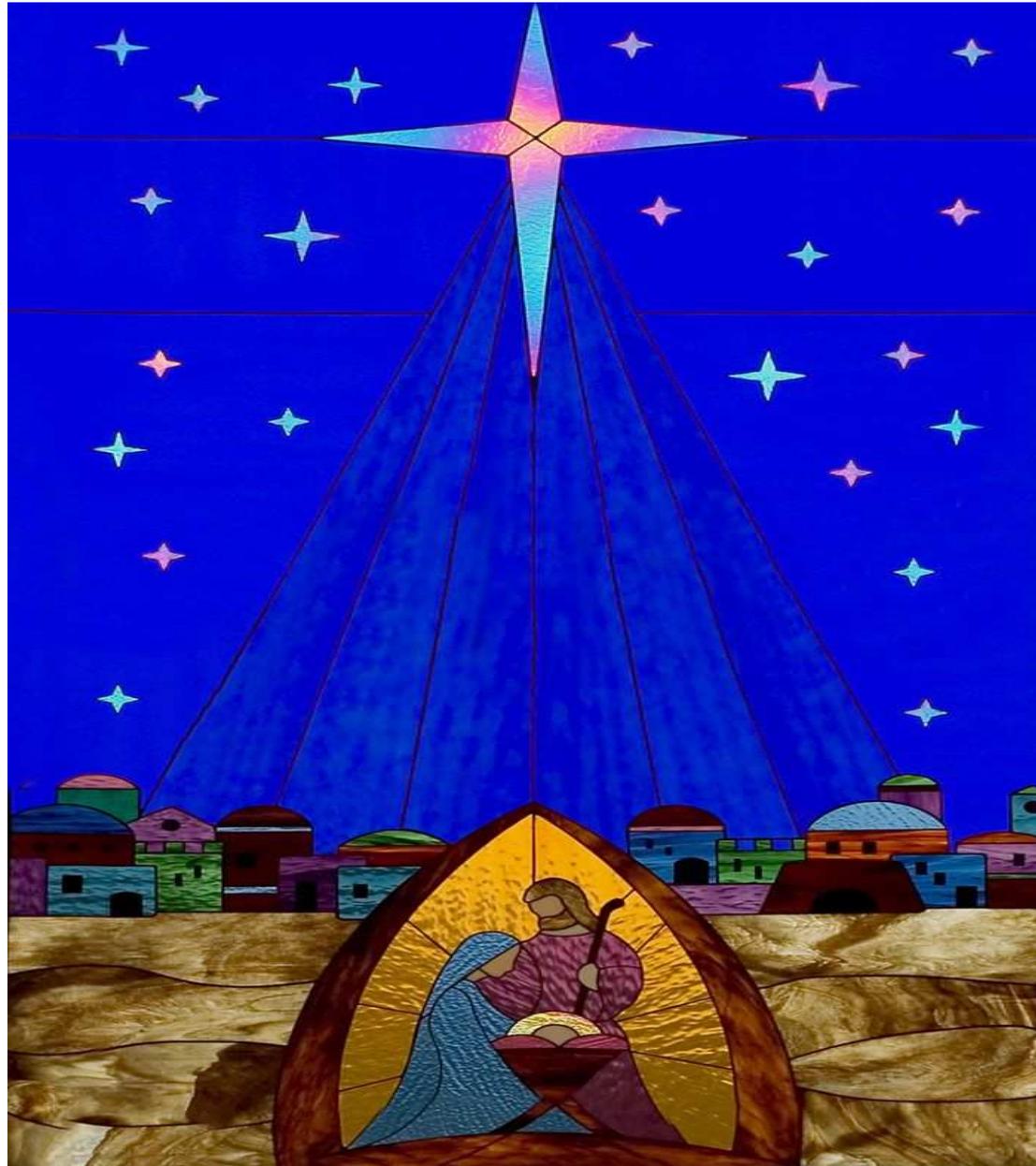




Salem Lutheran Church  
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450  
**Welcome to the House of the Lord**  
Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2018 – 5:00 p.m.



## CHRISTMAS EVE

On a long winter evening we gather to proclaim the coming of the light. Isaiah announces that the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Paul reminds us that the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. In the familiar account of Christ's birth, the evening sky is bright with the heavenly host singing, "Glory to God in the highest." Amid our broken world we proclaim that the Prince of peace is born among us. God comes to us in human flesh—in Christ's body and blood—so that we may be bearers of divine light to all the world.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Christmas Music

BELL

### CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

John 1:1-3

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning was the Word,  
**and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**  
In the Word was life,  
**and the life was the light of all people.**  
The Word became flesh and lived among us,  
**and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

### GREETING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

**ELW #283**

*During the Gathering Hymn the Advent wreath and chancel candles are lit.*



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

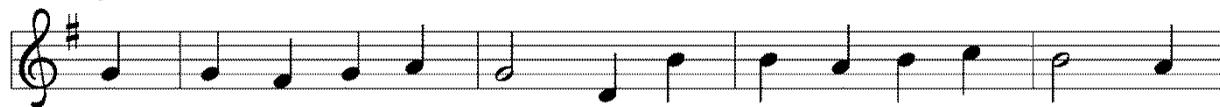


come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

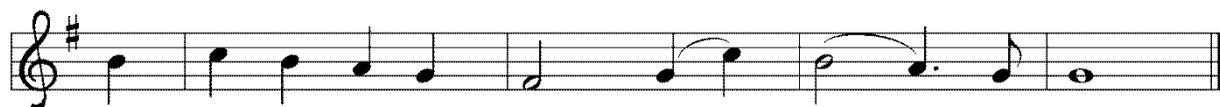


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

**FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

<sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>You 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. <sup>4</sup>For 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. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For 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. <sup>7</sup>His 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.

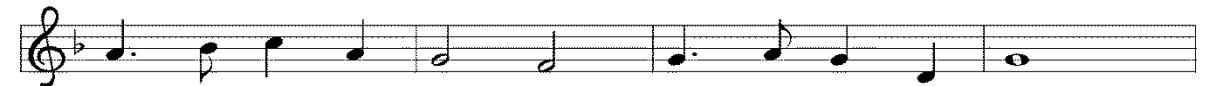
Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALMODY**

***In the Bleak Midwinter***

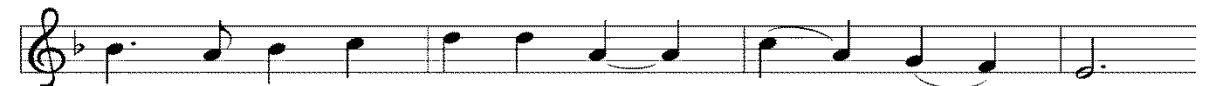
**ELW #294**



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;  
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

**SECOND READING****Titus 2:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Lullaby on Christmas Eve*

**Creature Praise Choir**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Away in a Manger*

**ELW #277**



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord  
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord  
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

**GOSPEL****Luke 2:1-14**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And 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.

<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!"

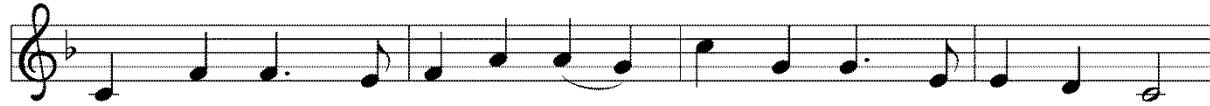
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

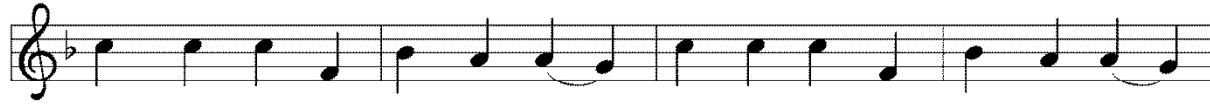
**SERMON**



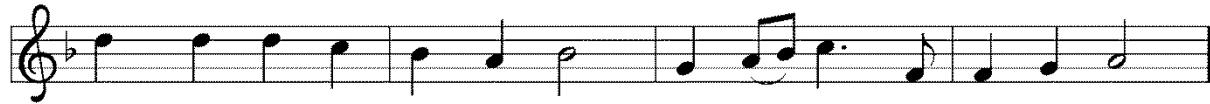
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



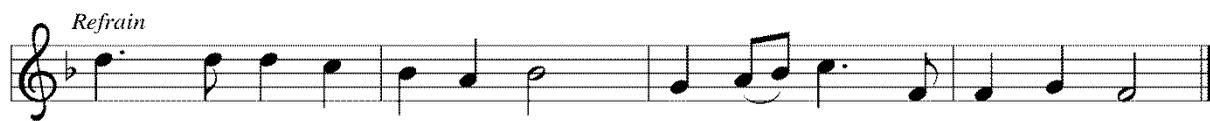
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



*Refrain*  
 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As heaven and earth rejoice, let us pray for the needs of the church and all the world.  
*A brief silence.*

Your great compassion, O God, has increased our joy. Give us gratitude each day for your light and the bread of life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Because of your generosity, the trees clap their hands, the deep waters teem with varied creatures, and the stars burn with distant fire. Make us grateful for all that you call us to nurture and protect. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Because you know our need for order, you give us nations, cities, and neighborhoods. Help us to welcome the expertise of leaders, to uphold their good direction, and to oppose what harms the vulnerable. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Because you are a God of healing and renewal, you make whole what is broken. We beg your mercy on all who find this time of year a burden. Strengthen the grieving and comfort those who struggle with addictions. We pray especially for those we name aloud or silently (*a brief silence*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

By the power of the Holy Spirit, you have given us to each other to encourage and challenge. Give us hearts that remember your Christmas gifts beyond this night. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for those before us who witnessed to your presence, taught us to pray, and strengthened us in the truth, and all with whom we share the feast of eternal life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

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## MEAL

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### OFFERING

#### MUSICAL OFFERING

#### OFFERING HYMN

#### *What Feast of Love*

ELW #487



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?  
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

## OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; 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 gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him. By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

## 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

## DISTRIBUTION

### CANDLE LIGHTING

### *Silent Night*

ELW #281

*After all have communed the pastors will light candles from the altar as the ushers come forward to light their candles. As the ushers light the candles of those in the pews the light is passed with the lit candle always remaining upright. When all the candles have been lit we will sing silent night. Following the prayer after communion all are invited to extinguish their candles.*



	<i>Stil - le</i>	<i>Nacht,</i>	<i>hei - li - ge</i>	<i>Nacht!</i>	<i>Al - les</i>	<i>schläft,</i>
1	Si - lent	night,	ho - ly	night!	All	is calm,
2	Si - lent	night,	ho - ly	night!	Shep - herds	quake
3	Si - lent	night,	ho - ly	night!	Son	of God,



<i>ein - sam</i>	<i>wacht</i>	<i>nur</i>	<i>das</i>	<i>trau - te,</i>	<i>hoch - hei - li - ge</i>	<i>Paar.</i>
all	is bright	round	yon	vir - gin	moth - er	and child.
at the	sight;	glo - ries	stream	from	heav - en	a - far,
love's	pure light	ra - diant	beams	from	your	ho - ly face,



<i>Hold - er</i>	<i>Kna - be</i>	<i>im</i>	<i>lok - ki - gen</i>	<i>Haar,</i>	<i>schlaf</i>	<i>in</i>	<i>himm - li - scher</i>
Ho - ly	In - fant,	so	ten - der	and mild,	sleep	in	heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly	hosts . . .	sing,	al - le - lu - ia!	Christ,	the	Sav - ior,	is
with the	dawn of	re - deem - ing	grace,	Je - sus,	Lord,	at	your



<i>Ruh,</i>	<i>schlaf</i>	<i>in</i>	<i>himm - li - scher</i>	<i>Ruh.</i>
peace,	sleep	in	heav - en - ly	peace.
born!	Christ,	the	Sav - ior,	is
birth,	Je - sus,	Lord,	at	your
			birth.	

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. **Amen.**

## SENDING

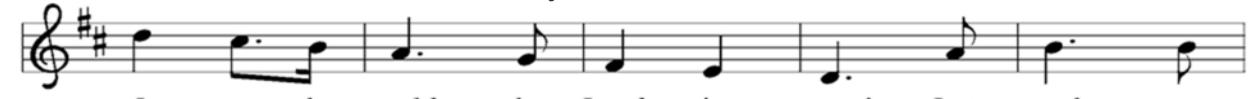
### BLESSING

God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you, ☩ bless you and keep you in hope and peace. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

### *Joy to the World*

ELW #267



1	Joy	to	the	world,	the	Lord	is	come!	Let	earth	re -
2	Joy	to	the	earth,	the	Sav - ior	reigns!	Let	all	their	
3	No	more	let	sin	and	sor - row	grow	nor	thorns	in -	
4	He	rules	the	world	with	truth	and	grace	and	makes	the



ceive	her	king;	let	ev - 'ry	heart	pre -	pare	him
songs	em -	ploy;	while	fields	and	floods,	rocks,	hills,
fest	the	ground;	he	comes	to	make	his	bles -
na -	tions	prove	the	glo -	ries	of	his	righ -
								teous -



room	and	heav'n	and	na -	ture	sing,	and	heav'n	and	na -
plains	re -	peat	the	sound -	ing	joy,	re -	peat	the	sound -
flow	far	as	the	curse	is	found,	far	as	the	curse
ness	and	won -	ders	of	his	love,	and	won -	ders	of



sing,	and	heav'n,	and	heav'n	and	na -	ture	sing.
joy,	re -	peat,	re -	peat	the	sound -	ing	joy.
found,	far	as,	far	as	the	curse	is	found.
love,	and	won -	ders,	won -	ders	of	his	love.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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**Pastor Joel Guttormson**

**Pastor Melinda McVey McCluskey**

**Ushers:** Kirby & Abby Holtan Family, Lyle & Orloue Thomson

**Acolytes:**

**Communion Servers:**

**Altar Guild for December:** All Guild Members

***Thank you for the poinsettias placed in memory of loved ones:***

*In loving memory of Kurtis Helgeson's birthday, Christmas Eve, from Verna and his kids*

*In memory of loved ones, from Sue Langerud*

*In loving memory of Darrel Beenken from his family*



**Salem's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 27 at 11:00 a.m. There will be one service at 10:00 a.m.** Potluck dinner held in the fellowship hall followed by the Annual Meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

Reserve your special date to sponsor a 2019 8:30 a.m. radio broadcast. The 8:30 a.m. worship service is heard on KIOW (107.3 FM) radio in Forest City and on cable channel 2.

Cost for 2019 is \$83. CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE YOUR DATE - 641.592.1771.

**2019 BROADCAST DATES AVAILABLE:**

**March 24, 31, April 21, 25, May 5, 12, June 9, 30, July 14, 21, 28,**

**Aug. 18, Sept. 1, 15, Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 10, 17, Dec. 1, 22, 29**

**We also have a sponsorship program for the live internet broadcast of the 8:30 a.m. worship service.** Sponsorship is available for \$40 per Sunday. **Call the office to reserve a date in 2019.**

**Thank you!**

To everyone for their contributions to Toys for Tots, Clothes for Kids, Gloves & Mittens, Good Gifts Farm Animals.

To all who have contributed to the Heating/Air Conditioning Fund to date. We have met the 25% goal needed for the grant application. The grant funding is very competitive and if we receive it, we still need to finish paying for the heating system. Your continued donations will be appreciated.

**Any donations you would like credited for 2018 need to be received by December 31, 2017.**

**THIS WEEK AT SALEM**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25**

**OFFICES CLOSED**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26**

**OFFICES CLOSED**

1:45 p.m. Mills Harbour Communion

2:30 p.m. LMCC Communion

5:30 p.m. Good Samaritan - Lounge

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29**

5:30 p.m. Service of Lessons & Carols – Chapel

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30**

8:30 a.m. Service of Lessons & Carols - Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

**“Mosquitoes and Miracles”**

Sunday, January 6th - 2:00 p.m. - Salem Sanctuary

Story teller Virginia Thomas

More details to come!



Visit us on the web at [www.salemlakemills.com](http://www.salemlakemills.com)  
Like us on Facebook. Search Salem Lake Mills

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