

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY SERVICE

PRELUDE

“Is Your Heart Prepared for a King”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

P Rejoice! With the Christ Candle lit we know that God is here.

C Rejoice! God becomes one of us.

P Rejoice! Jesus turns the whole world upside down.

C Rejoice! The kingdom of God is here and now.

P Rejoice! Jesus has come for each and every one of us.

C Rejoice! Jesus is born--God is here!

CAROL

“Joy to the World” ELW #267

READINGS AND CAROLS

Mary: Luke 1: 26-28

*Mary is placed in the scene

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” ELW #272 v. 1 & 2

PRAYER

Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Joseph: Matthew 1:18-25

*Joseph is placed in the scene

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ELW #254

PRAYER

O God, from the family of your servant David you raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the husband of his blessed mother. Give us grace to imitate his obedience to your commands. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

READINGS & CAROLS

Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem: Luke 2:1-5 *The animals are placed in the scene.

“*O Little Town of Bethlehem*” ELW#279 v. 1 & 4

PRAYER

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray; cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. **Amen.**

Jesus: Luke 2:6-7 *Jesus is placed in the scene

“*Away In a Manger*” ELW #277 v. 1 & 3

PRAYER

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Lily Brellenthin

READINGS & CAROLS

Angels and Shepherds: Luke 2:8-20 *The angel and shepherds are placed in the scene.

“*Go, Tell It On The Mountain*” ELW #290 v. 1 & 2

PRAYER

Loving God, when your precious Son became a tiny baby you changed our world. As we imagine those surroundings, we join with the shepherds in wonder and praise, glorifying you for all you have done. Thank you, God. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

OFFERING OFFERING PRAYER

God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at

blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Christmas Communion”

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let every heart receive your Savior.

HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

On this night, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

And now as you go from this place, go knowing that you are saved by grace, you are justified, you are forgiven, you are sought out, beloved, hidden in Christ and made for the glory of God. You are known, you are never forsaken, you are held in the palm of God's hand, you are loved. May the peace and power of our God be with us this night and always, in the name of the 1Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CANDLE LIGHTING CAROL

"Silent Night" ELW #281 v. 1, 2 & 3

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!

Peace to God's people on earth!

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE