



Name: zachary Age: 2

Christmas Eve Family Service



A Family Celebration for the Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2023

5:00 p.m.

Prelude

Words of Welcome / Cast of Characters

Remembrance of Baptism

Please stand as you are able and turn to the processional cross.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the (†) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.



Opening Hymn - O Come, All Ye Faithful

LB B 379 vs 1,2



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Greeting

- P** May the light and peace of Christ be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**



Confession and Forgiveness

P Amidst the darkness of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome the light of God's forgiveness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

C **Forgive our lack of faith and trust in your will.**

P Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

C **Forgive our neglect of the poor.**

P The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

C **Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

P The magi followed the star to find the Savior of the nations.

C **Forgive our reluctance to seek you with all our hearts.**

P The angel said, "You shall call his name Jesus for he will save his people from their sins." With great joy, I announce to you we are forgiven of our sins, in the name of the Father, and of the (†) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

SCENE 1: WHEN LIFE FEELS DARK... SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

SCENE 2: WHEN PEOPLE DON'T GET ALONG... SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to his own town to register. 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. He went there to register with Mary who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 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.



L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of Praise - O Little Town of Bethlehem

LB B 361 vs. 1&2



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to-night.
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!

SCENE 3: WHEN GOOD THINGS HAPPEN... SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

Luke 2:8-14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.



Hymn of Praise - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

LB B 380 vs 1,3



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
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!"
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



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

SCENE 4: WHEN PEOPLE ARE SAD... SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!



Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked King Herod, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." Then they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Praise - The First Noel

Verse 1:

The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

Verse 2:

They look-ed up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Refrain.



Gathering of Gifts - Angels We have Heard on High

LB B 368 vs. 1,2,3



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Refrain
Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The Prayers and The Candle Lighting Ceremony

- P** Let us pray, for ourselves and others, that all would know the light of Christ.
- C** **We are a Christmas people. We carry the light and love of Christ to the world.**
- R** We pray for the lonely that they may know the presence of Immanuel, God with us.
- R** We pray for those who grieve the loss of loved ones that they may believe that this Child came that we may have life and have it more abundantly.
- † R** We pray for peace that we may follow the Spirit of the Prince of Peace and that nations may find a way to settle their differences without violence.

- R** We pray for the poor that they may have shelter, food, clothing, and the Comfort of the Christ who came in poverty on Christmas night.
- R** We pray for those who are in despair that in the Child of Bethlehem they may see the hope of the world and their hope, too.
- R** We pray for missionaries that they may know the power of the Gospel and of the Christ whose coming they announce.
- R** We pray for our church that we may bring light to darkness and joy to sadness as we tell the story of our Savior's birth.

Prayer for Christmas Eve

- P** O God, because you once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant that we who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full measure of its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCENE 5: WHEN PEOPLE NEED HELP... SHINE JESUS' LIGHT!

Silent Night

LB 363 vs 1-3

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round you
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant

vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,
 stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n-ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 beams from Thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Benediction

- P** May Christ, born into time to bring endless peace, guide your days and years in righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and (†) give you peace.
- G** **Amen.**

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Joy to the World

LB 387 vs 1,4

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions
King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -
room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Dismissal



- P** Go out into the world. Let Jesus' Light shine through you.
Go in peace. Serve our newborn king, Jesus.
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

Please return your candles to the ushers as you leave.

Christmas Day Service

The Nativity of Our Lord
11:00 AM Monday, December 25
Holy Communion Worship Service



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRE-SCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org
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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Bible Classes: 9:45 a.m.



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