



Christmas Eve

December 24th, 2017

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



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Christmas Eve – December 24th, 2017

Service of Lessons and Carols

Opening Prayers

- M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C: **the light no darkness can overcome.**
- M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C: **and the day is almost over.**
- M: Be our light and scatter the darkness,
C: **and hear our evening hymn of praise.**

Hymn 46: *Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We*

Exhortation

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.

Lessons and Carols

I. Genesis 3:8-15

The Seed of the woman will crush the serpent's head.

Hymn 42: Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

II. Genesis 22:15-18

God's promises to Abraham

Hymn 35: Of the Father's Love Begotten

III. Isaiah 9:2,6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great Light.

Hymn 90: The People That in Darkness Sat

IV. Isaiah 11:1-9

A Branch from the stem of Jesse

Hymn 50: Once in Royal David's City

V. Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary.

Hymn 36: A Great and Mighty Wonder

VI. Luke 2:1-7

The birth of Jesus

Hymn 68: Away in a Manger

VII. Luke 2:8-20

The shepherds visit the manger.

Hymn 54: Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

VIII. Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men worship the newborn King.

Hymn 37: Once Again My Heart Rejoices

IX. John 1:1-14

The mystery of the incarnation

Hymn 40: O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is

Offering

Prayer

M: When all was still and it was midnight, your eternal Word, O Lord, descended from the almighty throne to dwell among us. May we receive him in the peace of forgiven hearts and proclaim your gracious goodwill to all people on earth, for he is God with us, Immanuel, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: May he who by his incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. And the blessing of God Almighty—the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Hymn 60: Silent Night! Holy Night

We welcome you to join us also for our Christmas Day service tomorrow morning at 9:00 AM.



Luke 2:1-20

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.