

# *The Marvel of This Night*

## *Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church*

*Christmas Eve 2018 - Pastor Mark Voss*

### *Invocation*

He was light	<b>coming into a world of darkness.</b>
He was love	<b>coming into a world of hate.</b>
He was life	<b>coming into a world of death.</b>
He was peace	<b>coming into a world of strife.</b>
He was righteousness	<b>coming into a world of sin.</b>
He was hope	<b>coming into a world of defeat.</b>
He was God	<b>coming into a world of humanity.</b>
He is our Savior	<b>and we begin in his name.</b>

P: Heavenly Father, Jesus was with you in the beginning, but we did not recognize him. He came into our world, but we did not welcome him. He came to his own, but we did not receive him. We are sorry for the sins of the world, and more sorry for our own sins.

**C: Forgive us for not making room in our hearts for Jesus. Pardon our rejections of him and of those filled with his light. Grant that we might spread his light and grace to give life to our world.**

P: As the angels told the shepherds that first Christmas Eve: "Do not be afraid. We 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." Rejoice! Through Christ we have peace with God.

C: Amen.

## Opening Carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

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O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove,  
 How si - lent - ly, how si - len - tly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep And dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go  
 While mor - tals sleep, The an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring  
 So God im - parts To hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his  
 Cast out our sin And en - ter in; Be born in us to -



by. Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
 love. O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 heav'n. No ear may hear his com - ing, But in this world of sin  
 - day. We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



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.  
 Where meek souls will Re - ceive him still, The dear Christ en - ters in.  
 Oh, come to us, A - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

## *Prayer of the Day*

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## *Musical Selection from our Choir – “Love Came Down”*

Words by Paul Williams Music by David Lantz, III ©1988 GlorySound

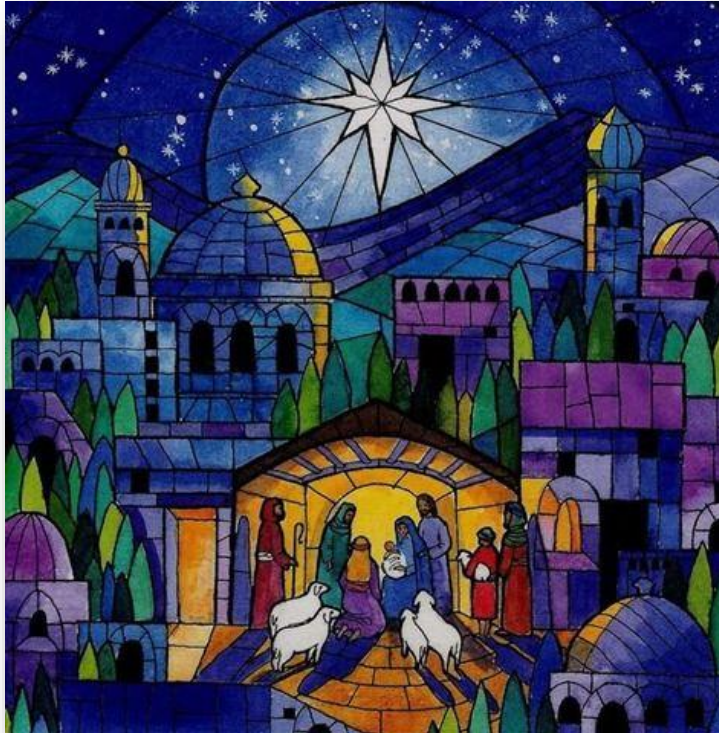
# *The Word*

*Isaiah 52:7-10 God reveals and humankind sees*

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!” <sup>8</sup> Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. <sup>9</sup> Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

## *Verse of the Day*

P: Alleluia. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you, he is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.



## *Luke 2:1-7 - The Christmas Gospel*

<sup>1</sup>In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup>(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup>And everyone went to his own town to register.

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup>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.



*Carol*

*“Away in a Manger”*

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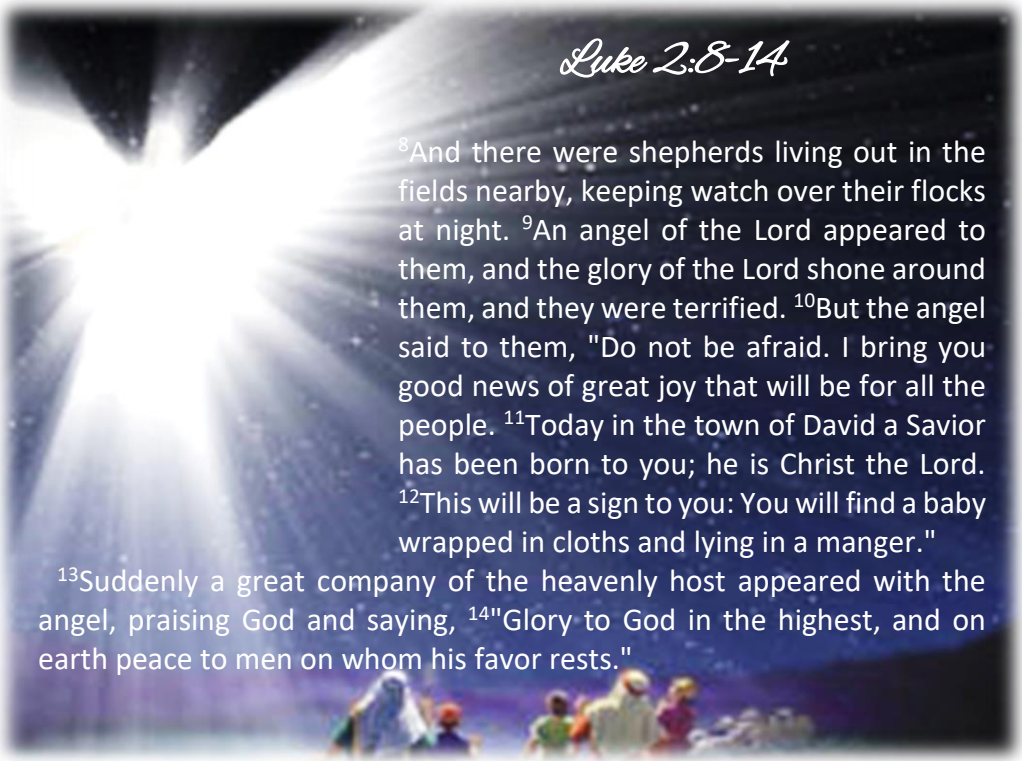
A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit-tle Lord  
The cat-tle are low-ing, the ba-by a-wakes, But lit-tle Lord  
Be near me, Lord Je-sus; I ask you to stay Close by me for-



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 chijl-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 side un-til morn-ing is nigh.



*Luke 2:8-14*

<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to 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. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup>Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

*Carol*

*"Peace Came to Earth"*

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Peace came to earth at last that cho-sen night When an - gels clove the  
And who could be the same for hav-ing held The in - fant in their  
You show the Fa-ther none has ev - er seen, In flesh and blood you  
How else could I have known you, O my God! How else could I have



sky with song and light And God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might  
arms and lat - er felt The wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis-pelled  
bore our griefs and pain, In bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain  
loved you, O my God! How else could I em - brace you, O my God!



Who could but gasp: Im - man-u-el! Who could but sing: Im - man-u-el!  
Who could but sigh: Im - man-u-el! Who could but shout: Im - man-u-el!  
Who could but see: Im - man-u-el! Who could but thrill: Im - man-u-el!  
Who could but pray: Im - man-u-el! Who could but praise: Im - man-u-el!

# *The Marvel of This Night*

## *Psalm 98*

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things;  
his right hand and his holy arm have  
worked salvation for him.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord has made his salvation  
known and revealed his righteousness  
to the nations.

<sup>3</sup> He has remembered his love  
and his faithfulness to Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.

<sup>4</sup> Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth . . .  
<sup>6b</sup> shout for joy before the Lord, the King.

# Christmas Carol

## "Before the Marvel of This Night"

LAPPY 20 Words of Jaroslav J. Vajda, Setting by Carl Shalk, Text © 1981 Jaroslav J. Vajda, Tune @ Setting © 1979 GIA Publication



Be-fore the mar-vel of this night A - dor - ing,  
A - wake the sleep-ing world with song; This is the  
The love that we have al - ways known, Our con-stant



fold your wings and bow. Then tear the sky a - part with light,  
day the Lord has made. As - sem-ble here, ce - les - tial throng;  
joy and end - less light, Now to the love-less world be shown,



And with your news the world en - dow. Pro - claim the  
In roy - al splen - dor come ar - rayed. Give earth a  
Now break up - on its death - ly night. In - to one



birth of Christ and peace, That fear and death and sor - row  
glimpse of heav'n - ly bliss, A teas - ing taste of what they  
song com - press the love That rules our u - ni - verse a -



cease: Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace, Sing peace, sing  
miss: Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing end-less bliss, Sing bliss, sing  
- bove: Sing love, sing love, sing God is love, Sing love, sing



gift of peace!  
end-less bliss!  
God is love!





## *Christmas Eve Prayer*

P: On this holy night, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

**C: Unto us a child is born! Unto us a Son is given!**

P: What a great mystery of our faith is this: that God has become fully human for our salvation. Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

**C: Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.**

P: In the midst of our joy, we grieve, for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

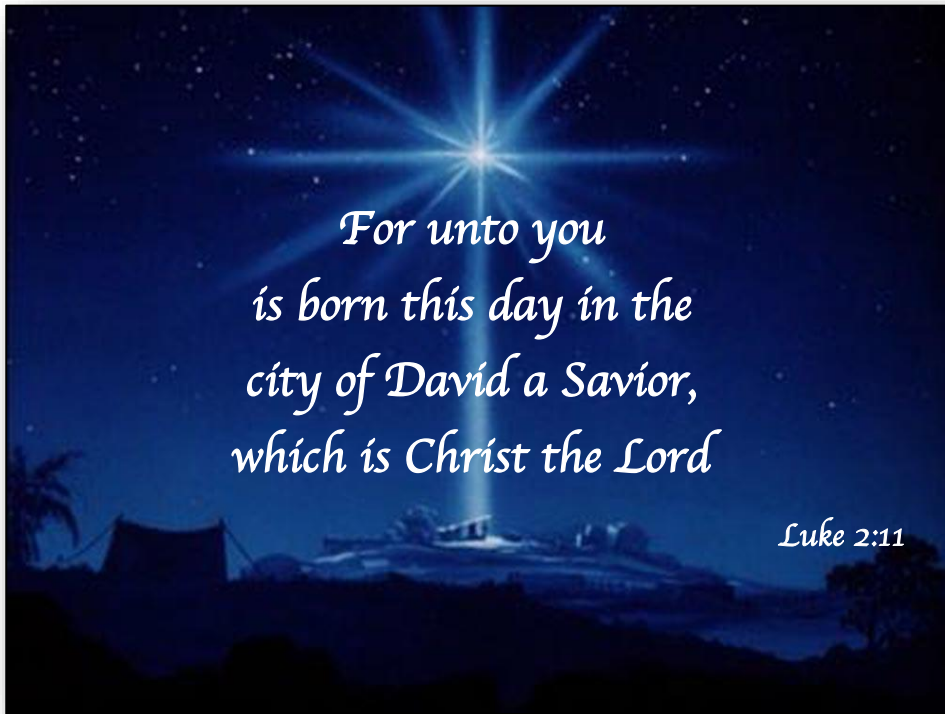
**C: Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.**

P: Hear us Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

P: As the angels sang out their praise, move us to sing out our praise to you, today and everyday as the joy of Christmas remains in our hearts.

**C: Glory to God in the highest! Amen.**



*For unto you  
is born this day in the  
city of David a Savior,  
which is Christ the Lord*

*Luke 2:11*

## *Offering*

*Lighting of the Candles* Parents, please use your discretion on whether your child should have his or her own candle. We suggest at least 8 years old. Do not tip a lighted candle! Tip only an unlit candle to receive the flame.

*Introduction to Silent Night – Choir*

*“Peace, Peace”*

*Peace, peace, peace on earth and good will to all.*

*This is a time for joy. This is a time for love.*

*Now let us all sing together of peace, peace, peace on earth.*

The congregation will join in singing Silent Night printed on the next page as directed.



Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright,  
Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight.  
Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light



Round you vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so  
Glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far; Heav'n-ly hosts sing,  
Ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re -



ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace,  
Al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
- deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth,



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

Words & Music by Rick & Sylvia Powell Arranged by Fred Bock ©1989 Matterhorn Music CW60 Public Domain

*Extinguishing and Gathering of Candles* Please cup the flame with your hand as you blow the flame out and return the candle as they are gathered.

## *Benediction*

P: May God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, shine in your hearts, and may the simple message of his birth give you joy all your days.

C: Amen.

# Christ Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

17700 East Iliff Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80013  
corchurch.com

Worship services Sundays  
at 8 and 10:30a (Summer  
Worship at 9a) and Thursdays  
at 7p

Bible Study and Sunday School  
at 9:15a



Pastor Mark Voss  
303-337-0025  
303-808-0611

markvoss@corchurch.com

Principal Kim Miller  
303-337-3108

principal@christredeemerschool.org

- A warm welcome to our visitors. May the Lord bless your worship with us today. We ask that you please sign the friendship register located at the end of the pew.
- Children – Activity bags are available in the coat room, off the narthex. Our nursery is located straight ahead and to your left as you exit the sanctuary. While we encourage young children to be in the service, families may like to use the nursery and are invited to do so.
- Please let an usher know if you require a larger print bulletin.
- Our services can also be viewed online. Go to our website [corchurch.com](http://corchurch.com) and click on Video Broadcast.
- As a member of Christ Our Redeemer we are connected to each other through our unity of faith and the public confession of that faith in Lord's Supper. To read what our profession of faith is, go to [www.corchurch.com](http://www.corchurch.com) and click on "Our Beliefs" or take a copy of the tract "What We Believe" in the Visitor Information Center kiosk. To become a member of our church family, please speak with the pastor.