



*Christmas at
Christ Our Redeemer*

December 24, 2019

Pastor Mark Voss

Opening

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

P: On those living in the land of deep darkness, a light has dawned.

C: We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: Heavenly Father,

Jesus was with you in the beginning,

but we did not recognize him.

He came into the 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 even sorrier 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 angel told the shepherds that first Christmas Eve: *“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.”* Rejoice! Through Christ we have peace with God.

C: Amen.

Opening Carol – “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Text: Edmund Sears Tune: Richard Storrs Willis Public Domain



It came up-on the mid-**n**ight clear, That glo - rious song of
Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-
All you, be-neath your heav - y load, By care and guilt bent
For lo, the days have come to pass By pro - phets seen of



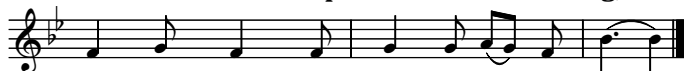
old, From an - gels bend - ing near the earth, To
- furred, And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats O'er
low, Who toil a - long a drear - y way With
old, When down in - to the cir - cling years Came



touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From
all the wea - ry world; A - bove its sad and low-ly plains, They
pain - ful steps and slow, Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come
Christ as was fore - told, His word of peace shall to the earth God's



heav'en's all gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
bend on hov'r - ing wing, And ev - er o'er its
swift - ly on the wing. The Prince was born to
an - cient prom - ise bring, And all who take this



still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
ba - bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.
bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing!
gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.



Prayer for 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 – COR Choir

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Divinum Mysterium Arranged by Michael Larkin ©1992 Augsburg Fortress

The Word

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. ³ You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. ⁴ For as in the day of Midian’s defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. ⁵ Every warrior’s boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

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.

Carol – “Go Tell it On the Mountain”

CW 57 Text: From *American Negro Songs and Spirituals*.
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Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills, and ev - 'ry - where;



Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born.



While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a - bove the earth
Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Be - hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light. *Refrain*
Rang out the an-gel chor-us That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

The Christmas Gospel Luke 2:1-7

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

⁴ 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. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Musical Selection – Duet

“Mary’s Little Boy”

JESTER HAIRSTON Arr. By Bill Wolaver Duet arr. By Tom Fenke

Luke 2:8-20

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



Carol – “Where Shepherds Lately Knelled”

CW 54 Text © 1987 Jaroslav J. Vajda. Tune and Setting: Carl F. Schalk ©1987 by GIA Publications



Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's word,
In that un - like - ly place I find him as they said:
How should I not have known I - sa - iah would be there,
Can I, will I for - get how Love was born, and burned



I come in half - be - lief, a pil - grim strange - ly stirred;
Sweet new-born Babe, how frail! and in a man - ger bed,
His proph - e - cies ful-filled? With pound - ing heart I stare:
Its way in - to my heart un - asked, un - forced, un - earned,



But there is room and wel - come there for me,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me,
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
To die, to live, and not a - lone for me,



But there is room and wel - come there for me.
A still small voice to cry one day for me.
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.
To die, to live, and not a - lone for me?

Crossing the Christmas Border

Based on the Christmas Gospel on pages 4 and 5

Offering & Offertory

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

©1956 by Bourne Co. New York, This arrangement ©1995 by Bourne Co. New York

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.

Carol – "Silent Night"

CW 60 Text: Joseph Mohr Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber Public Domain



Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm,
Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God,



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 thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,
Heav'n - ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia;
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.

Extinguishing of Candles

Please cup the flame with your hand as you blow the flame out. Please return the candle as you are ushered out.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Closing 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
arms and lat - er felt The wound - ed hands and
bore our griefs and pain, In bread and wine you
loved you, O my God! How else could I em-



love and sheathed his might Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!
side, all doubts dis - pelled Who could but sigh: Im - man - u - el!
vis - it us a - gain Who could but see: Im - man - u - el!
- brace you, O my God! Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!



Christ Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

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corchurch.com
christredeemerschool.org

Worship services Sundays at 8 &
10:30a (Summer Worship at 9a)
Thursdays at 7p, during Lent and
Advent Wednesdays at 7p

Bible Study and Sunday
School at 9:15a



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- 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. During our service a staffed 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 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 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.