

First English Lutheran Church
Bulletin for Candlelight Zoom
December 24, 2020

*Texts for hymns can be found in the back of this bulletin.
As you prepare your worship space, consider lighting a candle.*

PRELUDE

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	- Evelyn Simpson-Curento and Camil Van Hulse
"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"	- Paul Manz
"Noël"	- Louis-Claude Daquin
"This Day of Rejoicing"	- J.S. Bach
"La Nativité"	- Jean Langlais
"A Little Shepherd Music"	- Harald Rohlig
w/Recorder – Kevin Mathias	

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN "O Come All Ye Faithful" - Bulletin, page 8

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING **Genesis 1:1-4**

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

HYMN "Of the Father's Love Begotten," sts. 1 and 4 - Bulletin, page 9

SECOND READING Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

HYMN

“It Came upon a Midnight Clear”

- Bulletin, page 10

THIRD READING Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

HYMN "Lo, How a Rose" - Bulletin, page 11

FOURTH READING Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

HYMN "Away in a Manger" - Bulletin, page 11

GOSPEL READING Luke 2:8-20

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around

them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

HOMILY (*Live*)

HYMN OF THE DAY "Angels We Have Heard on High" -Bulletin, page 12

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident in the love and grace shown to us in the infant Christ Jesus, let us bring our prayers and requests to God. Our response to each petition is, "Hear our prayer."

For all your people throughout the world, that this Christmas we experience the joy you give despite all hardship and distress, Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For our nation, and for all nations throughout the world, that they would welcome your Son as Prince of Peace and so put an end to divisiveness, violence, and war. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who are hungry or cold, for those who lack clothing and blankets, and for those who need shelter, that You would open to them ways to meet these basic needs, Lord, in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

For patience as we work for the end of the pandemic. Give rest to the weary, healing to the ill, hope to the despairing, and relief to those who have lost livelihoods, Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For those in special need this night whom we now name aloud before you...*(pause)* .and for those whose names are known to you alone, that You would give whatever you see that they need. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For friends and family from whom we are estranged, and for all who live with broken relationships, that they—and we—might seek healing in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all those who join us in praising the infant Christ tonight, but on another shore and in a greater light, that we might with them put all our trust in the Word made flesh. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Into the manger of your love, Gracious God, we lay our prayers, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Finally, O God, as your Son has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

SIXTH READING John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Silent Night (w/ On a Starlit Night)

Franz Gruber, 1787-1863 / Jill Gallina (ASCAP)

(stanza 1 ~ Choral Ensemble & Congregation)

Silent night, holy night!

All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon Virgin Mother and Child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

(Choral Ensemble Interlude/Descant Part)
(stanza #2 ~ Choral Ensemble & Congregation)
Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing *alleluia!*
Christ, the Savior, is born. Christ, the Savior, is born!

(stanza #3 ~ Choral Ensemble with the Choral Descant & Congregation: 2-parts)
Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure Light
Radiant beams from Your Holy face
With the dawn of Redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Your birth, Jesus, Lord, at Your birth!

Vocal Ensemble Linda Mathias, *soprano*, Signe Mitchell, *soprano*, Sue Morrow, *alto*, Kevin Mathias, *tenor*, Jim Cunningham, *bass*, Harry Cunningham, *pianist*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty God and Father of light, a child is born for us and a son is given to us. Your eternal Word leaped down from heaven in the silent watches of the night, and now your Church is filled with wonder and light at the nearness of our God. Open our hearts to receive his life and increase our vision with the rising of the dawn, that our lives may be filled with his glory and his peace; who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Amen

BLESSING

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child; and may Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Repeat the Sounding Joy!" - Bob Krogstad, *arr.*
Trumpeters – James Cunningham and Kyle Golden

HYMNS

O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



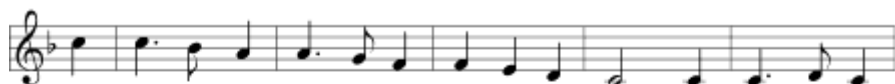
seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



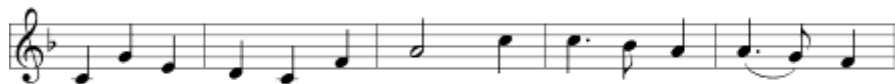
mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1–2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4
 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 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 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 chil - 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 cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, anonymous, 19th cent.
 Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

Angels We Have Heard on High



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.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Mollie Hibbs	Assisting Minister
Holly Schubert and Melody Kamerer	Readers
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Josh Kamerer	AV Assisting Minister
Heather Helsel	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Edgard Nieto, by Victor and Jan Nieto, Norma Gloria Nieto, and Norma Beatriz Nieto.

POINSETTIAS contributed by Myrna Hamil, Larry Hamil, Josh & Jessie Kamerer, Sandy Lefebvre, and Bill & Judy Vilcheck

CHRISTMAS TREE contributions made by Bob & Karen Domanski, Larry Hamil, Myrna Hamil, Signe Mitchell, Joseph & Patricia Zupancic, Thelma Jean Cross, Ed & Grace Shields, Ted & Joan Giese, Bill & Judy Vilcheck, John & Jolene Pelgrin, Marilyn Shoup, Brenda Ihlenfeld, John & Betty Sue Lehew, Jim & Jeanette Cunningham, Brent & Laura Warmbrod, Susan Farrell, Hazel Warheit, Danna Drescher

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED December 24th & 25th in observance of the Christmas holiday. The church office will also be closed January 1st.