

# **Lutheran Church of the Cross**



**Service of the Carols**

**December 24, 2020**

**10pm**

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

## *Service of the Carols*

December 24, 2020—10:00 pm

We invite you this evening to come into the story of God's son. Come and listen to the words of promise and fulfillment. Come and sing the songs of joy and hope. Come and meet the Savior of the world.

**PRELUDE:**

Gerri Sarsten

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

Janie & Scott Hauge

**GATHERING SONG**

**"I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve" #271**

**GREETING**

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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.  
God of peace,

**We deeply desire your peace and yet watch the discord in our families the violence in our world and even in our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reconnect us to one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. In the name of Jesus our Savior, you are set free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come.

**Amen.**

## ***THE PROMISE***

<b>CAROL:</b>	<b>“Joy to the World”</b>	<b>ELW 267</b>
<b>FIRST LESSON:</b>	<b>Isaiah 9:2-7</b>	
<b>CAROL:</b>	<b>“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</b>	<b>ELW 282</b>
<b>SECOND LESSON:</b>	<b>Micah 5:2-5a</b>	
<b>CAROL:</b>	<b>“O Little Town of Bethlehem”</b>	<b>ELW 279</b>
<b>THIRD LESSON:</b>	<b>Luke 1:26-38</b>	
<b>CAROL:</b>	<b>“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”</b>	<b>ELW 257</b>

## ***THE FULLFILLMENT***

<b>FOURTH LESSON:</b>	<b>Luke 2:1-7</b>	
<b>CAROL:</b>	<b>“Away in a Manger”</b>	<b>ELW 277</b>
<b>FIFTH LESSON:</b>	<b>Luke 2:8-14</b>	
<b>CAROL:</b>	<b>“What Child is This”</b>	<b>ELW 296</b>
<b>SIXTH LESSON:</b>	<b>Luke 2:16-20</b>	
<b>CAROL:</b>	<b>“Angels we Have Heard on High”</b>	<b>ELW 289</b>

## **SERMON**

### **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 THE CHURCH “Your Little Ones, Dear Lord” ELW 286 v.1**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY “O Holy Night”** Special Music sung by Gerri Sarsten

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Good and loving God,

**We rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessings for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**WE SHARE THE HOLY MEAL**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and when he had given thanks; he broke it, gave it to his disciples and said, “Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” Again, after supper, he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Spoken

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and 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, and the power and the glory, are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER**

The mystery hidden for the ages is revealed for us in this meal. Come, behold and receive your God.

**COMMUNION CAROL**

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

**ELW 283**

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood for our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**We give you thanks that as you brought your Son into the world, you bring us here. You feed us with your body and blood. We humbly thank you. Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim the good news of great joy in Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

### **CHRISTMAS CAROL**

**“Silent Night” ELW 281**

### **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you his peace. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Savior has come and there is hope for new life at last!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE:**

Gerri Sarsten



**“Making Jesus Known by Sharing Our Gifts”**





Thank you to everyone who  
purchased poinsettias to decorate the  
sanctuary this Christmas season!

- ~ **Given by Mike, Kim, Nate, Grace Humann**  
*In memory of Gerald & Darleen McLaughlin, Ray and Loretta Humann*
- ~ **Given by the Harris Family; Tom, Kari, Kay, Kolt**  
*In memory of Ron Vernon, the Espeliens, the Dreveckys, the Ryans, the  
Harrises*
- ~ **Given by Art Wheeler**  
*In memory of Florence Wheeler*
- ~ **Given by Jerry & Patty Hanson**  
*In memory of Scott Kennedy and Barb Hanson*
- ~ **Given by John & Jean Kraft**  
*In honor of our family*
- ~ **Given by Kay & Jim Miller**  
*In memory of family  
In honor of Terra & Mike Miller Bowley, Krisi, Tim, Brandon Kunz*
- ~ **Given by Norlyn & Patsy Schmidt**  
*In memory of Lois Schmidt & Pearl Unverzagt*
- ~ **Given by Donna Belisle**  
*In memory of Gene Belisle*
- ~ **Given by Ken & Karen Will**  
*In memory of our parents; Edmore & Mildred Will, Alfred & Emma Sunde*
- ~ **Given by Lisa Ahlness and Van Vechten Crane**  
*In memory of Hans Ahlness, Paul Ahlness, Richard & Mary Crane*

- ~ **Given by Lee & Ruth Jensen**  
*In honor of our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren*
- ~ **Given by Agnes Christianson & family**  
*In memory of Conrad Christianson*
- ~ **Given by John, Mark Erickstad and families**  
*In memory of Ralph & Lois Erickstad*
- ~ **Given by Roger & Esther Anderson**
- ~ **Given by Mike & Tracy Geiermann**  
*In honor of those hurting and alone. You are loved and a child of God.*
- ~ **Given by Janie Hague**  
*In memory of my mom, Paulette Hague. You are missed dearly.*
- ~ **Given by Nancy Dockter**  
*In memory of my family members in heaven and in honor of my loving supportive family here on earth.*
- ~ **Given by Verlaine & Larry Jahner**  
*In honor of our grandchildren: Violet & Hazel Jahner, Sawyer & Aeris Steiger*
- ~ **Given by John & Janet Doerner**  
*In memory of Patricia Reiten Juffer*
- ~ **Given by Roger & Cherie Krueger**  
*In memory of Patricia Krueger and Diane Krueger,  
In honor of our children; Jessica and John and their families*
- ~ **Given by Roger & Mavis Pommerer**  
*In honor of all our men and women serving in the military*
- ~ **Given by Bruce & Peggy Hetland**  
*In memory of Brad James Hetland*



- ~ **Given by Linda Kramer**  
*In memory of Jim Kramer*
- ~ **Given by Early & Marlene Larson**  
*In memory of Gorden Larson*
- ~ **Given by Arlene, Robin, Collete, Elizabeth and Heather Hogle**  
*In loving memory of Bob Hogle*
- ~ **Given by Sally & Terry Grenz**  
*In memory of Jim Grenz, Delyghte Haid*
- ~ **Given by Paul Gurholt and family**  
*In memory of Marcia Gurholt*
- ~ **Given by Richard, Ken Ron, Pam Ottenbacher**  
*In memory of Ed & Ella Ottenbacher*
- ~ **Given by David & Kathy Drovda**  
*In honor of our family*
- ~ **Given by Gladys Bain & family**  
*In memory of Robert Bain*
- ~ **Given by Shirley Grondahl**  
*In memory of C.R. Grondahl*
- ~ **Given by Art & Donna Dohrmann**  
*In memory of Richard & Edna Dohrmann, Evelyn & Don Reimer*
- ~ **Given by Steve & Cheryl Neu**  
*In memory of my mom; Evelyn and Steve's Dad; Melvin. In honor of our children and grandchildren*

Thank you to those that decorated  
the sanctuary this Christmas season with the beautiful  
poinsettias.

