



N A T I V I T Y



o f O u r L o r d

# Christmas Eve

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2020 • 5:00 p.m.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For 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. His 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.

—ISAIAH 9:2-7

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA  
[www.mtviewlutheran.org](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org) • 253-863-5171

In the order of service, the words  
that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

**Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.**

For music, the words in regular type are sung by all,  
unless otherwise noted.

## Prelude

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem” • arr. Stephen DeCesare*  
*MVLC Virtual Orchestra*  
*Carson Farley, cello; Bill Kohler, saxophone;*  
*Joan Kohler, flute; Ellen Leapaldt, flute*

## Welcome / Announcements

# Confession

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who was in the beginning,  
who makes a dwelling among us,  
who covers us with justice and mercy.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of goodness and lovingkindness,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.  
We have turned away from your invitation to new life.  
We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden.  
In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,  
those we know and those known only to you,  
for the sake of the one who came to live among us,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!

God forgives us all our sins,  
not through our own work,  
but through + Jesus Christ, made known to all people.  
With all who come to the manger,  
rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

**Amen.**

# Opening Hymn • "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 283



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!

# Greeting

For unto us a child is born! 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.**

## Hymn of Praise • “Angels We Have Heard on High”

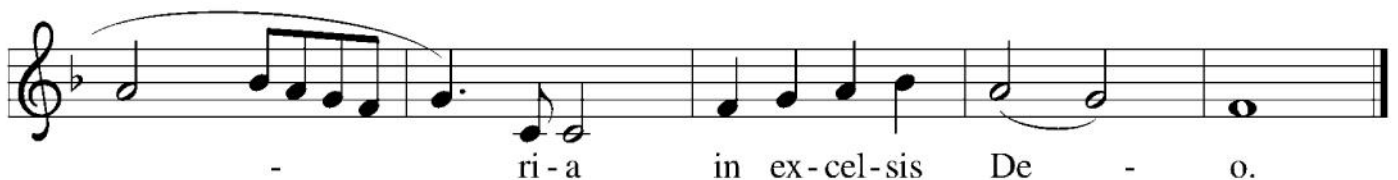
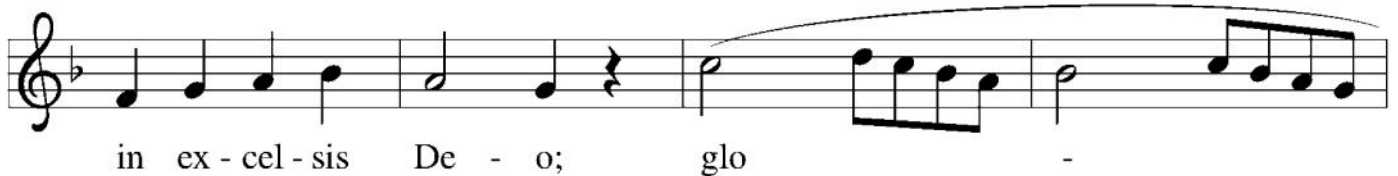
*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 289*



- 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.



# Prayer of the Evening

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

A reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For 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. His 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



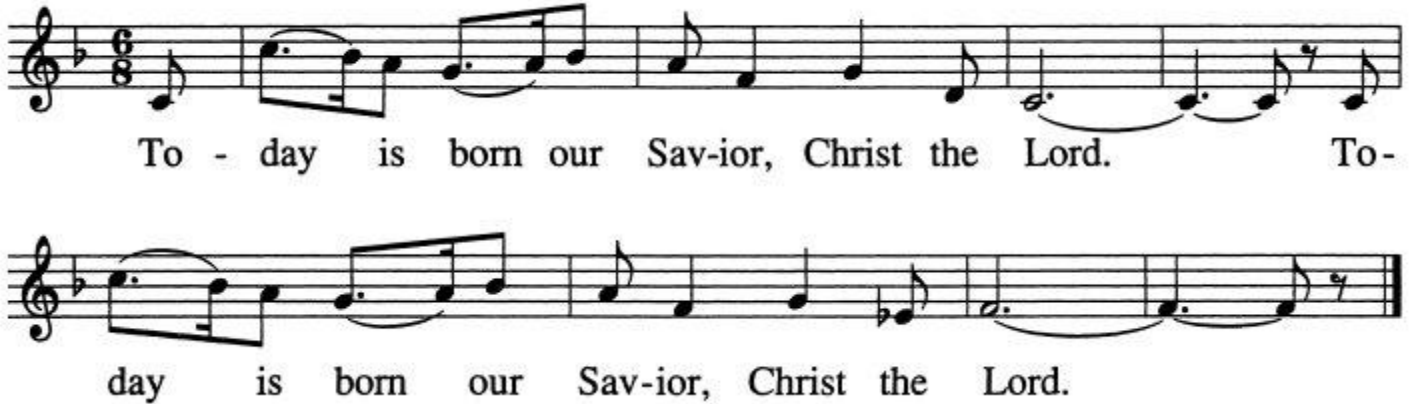
# Psalm 96 • "Today Is Born Our Savior"

*Gather, Third Edition 68*

*Cantor sings the refrain first, **then all repeat.***

*Cantor sings verses; **congregation sings refrain.***

Refrain



Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all you lands.  
Sing to the Lord; bless his name. **Refrain.**

Announce his salvation, day after day.  
Tell his glory among the nations;  
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. **Refrain.**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;  
let the sea and what fills it resound;  
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!  
Then shall all the trees of the forest exult. **Refrain.**

They shall exult before the Lord, for he comes;  
for he comes to rule the earth.  
He shall rule the world with justice  
and the peoples with his constancy. **Refrain.**

# Second Reading

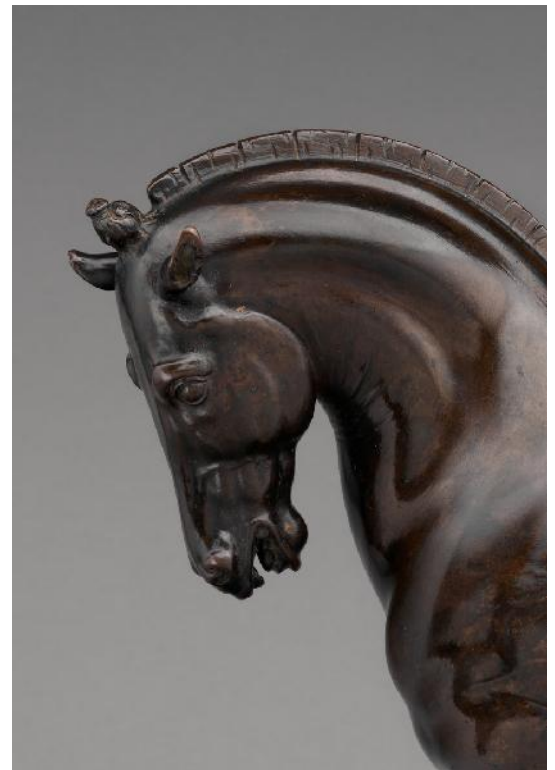
A reading from Titus.

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



# Gospel Acclamation • "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Gather, Third Edition 428

## Refrain



Go tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry-where;

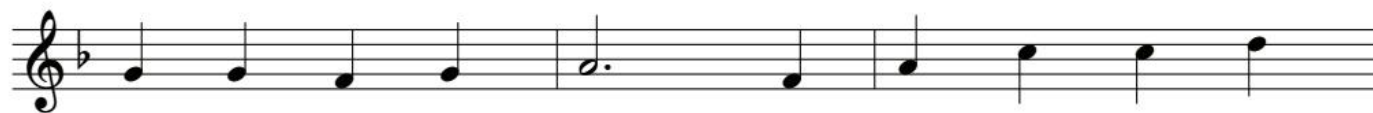


Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

## Verses



1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er  
2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled When,  
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger The



si - lent flocks by night, Be - hold through - out the  
lo, a - bove the earth Rang out the an - gel  
hum - ble Christ was born, And God sent us sal -

D.C.



heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

# Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When 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.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# Sermon

Pastor Briana R. Merkle.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

## Hymn of the Evening • “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 270*



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav’n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



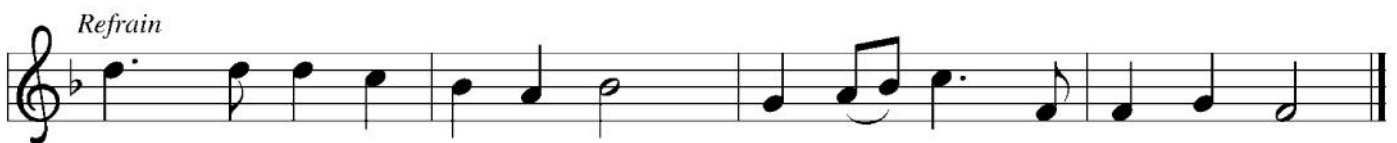
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled.”  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



*Refrain*

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born king!”



# Nicene Creed

Together, let us confess our faith.

**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

Joining our voices with the song of the angels,  
let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

*At the conclusion of each petition:*

Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace  
as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

# Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

# Offering

We give to the Lord of our tithes and offerings.

*You can mail an offering to:*

Mountain View Lutheran Church  
3505 - 122nd Ave E  
Edgewood WA 98372

*Ways that you can give electronically:*

## TEXT

- Text “Give” to 253-292-9599.
- You will be sent a message to (a) text your giving amount and/or (b) set up recurring giving.

## ONLINE via the MVLC WEBSITE

- Visit [www.mtviewlutheran.org](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org).
- Hover over the “GIVE” dropdown.
- Choose “Make a Donation via Bank Account” or “Make a Donation via Credit/Debit Card.”
- Fill out all information on the page and then click the blue “GIVE” button.
- If you want it to remember your information, visit “SIGN IN” and create an account.
- NOTE: Online giving is a one-time gift unless you check “Make this Gift Recurring.”

# Offertory

*“Sing We Now of Christmas” • arr. Lloyd Larson*  
*MVLC Virtual Choir*

# Offertory Prayer

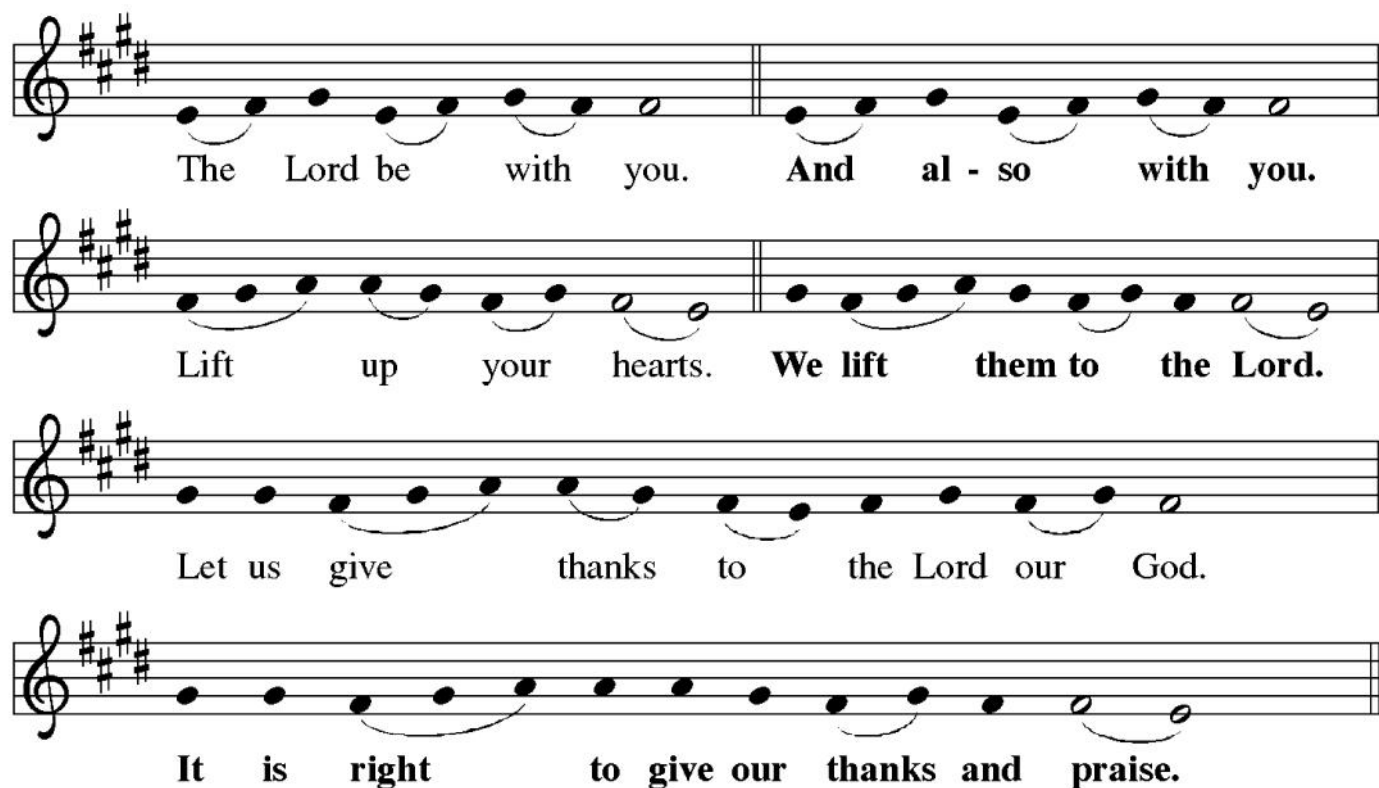
Gracious God,

**you came to us as one unknown,  
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.  
Nourish us at your banquet table,  
that with all who welcome your birth  
we may proclaim your peace,  
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**



# Great Thanksgiving

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship S 152*



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs. The lyrics are written below each staff, aligned with the notes. The first staff has a double bar line after the first phrase. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first phrase. The third and fourth staves end with a double bar line.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times in in all places  
give thanks and praise to you,  
almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have opened the eyes of faith  
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,  
that beholding the God made visible,  
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:



# Sanctus

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship S 153*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

# The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom  
and teach us to pray:

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

# Lamb of God

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship S 154*

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Invitation to Communion

The Word is revealed in a manger,  
in simple bread and wine.  
Come meet Christ in this meal.

The body of Christ, given to you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

# Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, gracious God,  
that you have once again fed us from your very self  
with the body and blood of Christ.  
Through this mystery, send us forth  
to proclaim your promise to a world in need,  
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## Lighting of the Candles

*Those assembled are invited to light the candles they've gathered in their homes while the pastors light the candles on the altar.*

*“Still, Still, Still” • arr. Cathy Mokolbust  
Tina Thomas, handbell solo*

# Candlelight Hymn • "Silent Night, Holy Night"

*arranged by Trevor Manor*

*MVLC Virtual Choir with Kyra Kehm-Goins, violin*

***The congregation is invited to sing along with the choir.***

*Everyone is asked to make the sign of the cross with their candle,  
at each verse, following the lead of the pastors,  
as a remembrance of their baptisms.*

**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.**

*Choir: Sleep in peace, heavenly peace.*

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing "Alleluia!"  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!**

*Choir: Alleluia!*

*[Interlude]*

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

*Choir: (Lord, at thy birth)  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth (Christ the Savior is born!)  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Christ the Savior is born!  
Christ the Savior is born!  
Sleep in peace, heavenly peace.  
Sleep in peace, heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace (Sleep in peace).*



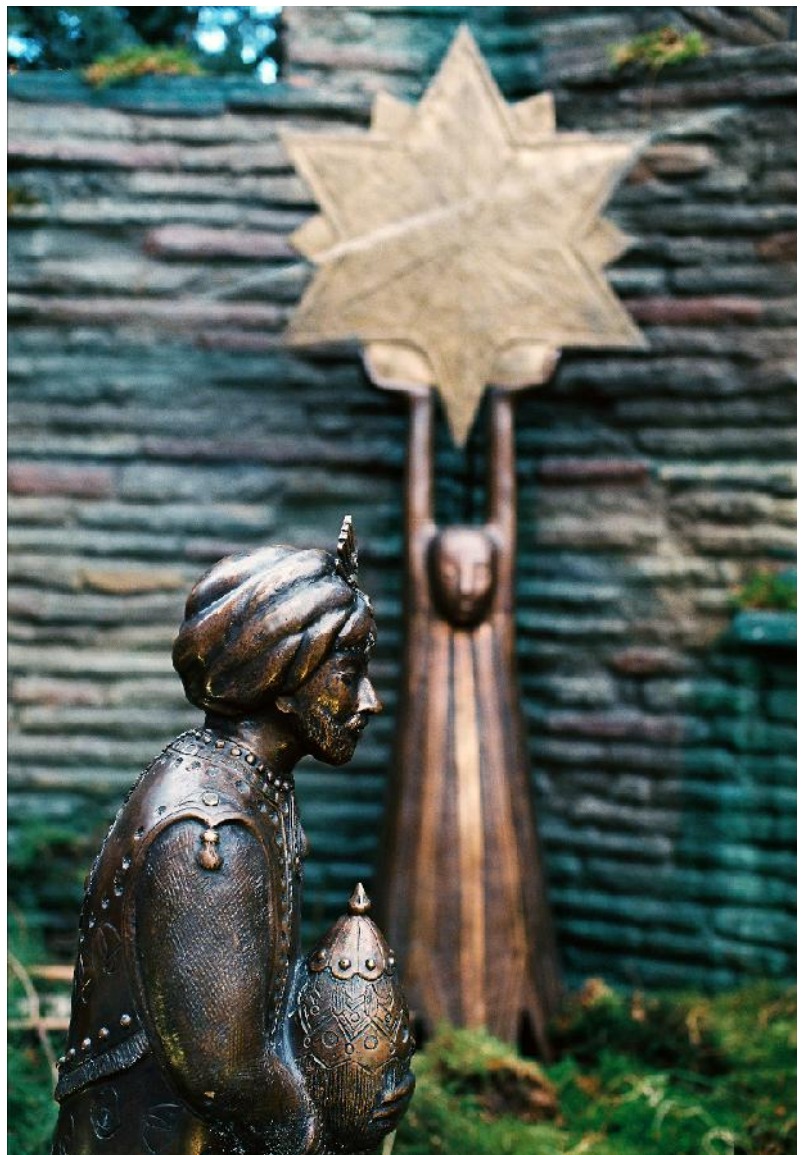
# Benediction

Almighty God,  
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,  
proclaimed joy through the angels,  
sent the shepherds with good news,  
and led the magi by a star,  
bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.

**Amen.**

+ *The sign of the cross may be made by all  
in remembrance of their baptism.*

*Extinguish candles at the conclusion of the benediction.*



# Sending Hymn • "Joy to the World"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 267*



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

# Sending

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Postlude

*Postlude on “Antioch” • arr. Gerald Peterson*

*Please register your worship attendance online at*  
[www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance)

*Please submit prayer requests online at*  
[www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest)

# Poinsettias

*The poinsettias on the altar and in the Sanctuary worship space were given to the glory of God by*

- ) Jeanne Anderson, in memory of her parents Bill and Gertie Winter.
- ) Joe and Rosemarie Anderson, in memory of their parents.
- ) John and Myrna Anderson, in memory of Kevin Anderson and Dean Inglin.
- ) Pat Clement, in memory of Ben, Helen, McFeeley and in memory of Helen C. Miller, S.N.D.
- ) Ken and Barb Edmonds, in memory of their brother-in-law John Reed, Jr.
- ) Ed and Barb Egan, in memory of Barb's parents Ernst and Mabel Hoerz and Ed's parents Bernard and Evelyn Egan.
- ) Bob and Joan Linden, in honor of their family and friends.
- ) Connie McCrossin, in memory of John McCrossin.
- ) Lindy and Diane Nelson, in memory of their son Eric and their parents.
- ) Earl and Joan Root in memory of their son Michael and their parents.
- ) Ken and Sandi Swanson, in honor of their grandchildren.
- ) Betsy Tunstall, in memory of Bruce Tunstall; Bruce's parents John and Vi Tunstall; and Betsy's parents Jack and Jeanne Sweeney.
- ) Marlene Wright, in memory of Patricia Tyllia.



# Worship Notes

The contents of the Mountain View Lutheran Church worship folder are copyright © 2020, all rights reserved. Some worship content is from *Sundays and Seasons, 2021, Year B*, copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress.

Images printed include:

- ) Front cover: Detail of “Hubble’s Blue Bubble,” photograph, 2016, by NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, [creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0). Public domain.
- ) Page 2: “Madonna and Child, bronze sculpture, 1950, by Jacob Epstein. Photograph, 2011, by Steven Cadman, [www.flickr.com/photos/stevecadman/5823335931](https://www.flickr.com/photos/stevecadman/5823335931) [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0 ([creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0))].
- ) Page 10, left: Detail of “Cow,” bronze sculpture, 19th century, by Isidore Bonheur. Public domain, courtesy of Met Museum, [www.metmuseum.org](https://www.metmuseum.org).
- ) Page 10, right: Mirror image detail of “Horse,” bronze sculpture, circa 1587–1591, by an anonymous Florence artist, after a model by Giambologna. Public domain, courtesy of Met Museum, [www.metmuseum.org](https://www.metmuseum.org).
- ) Page 15: Star-shaped tile with floral scrolls, glaze on earthenware, circa 1250–1324, by an anonymous Kashan artists. Public domain, courtesy of Rijksmuseum, [www.rijksmuseum.nl/en](https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en).
- ) Page 24: “Kölner Stadtkrippe Nativity Scene,” photograph (of bronze sculptures by Rosemarie Peter), 2012, by Werner Wittersheim, [www.flickr.com/photos/wwwuppertal/8298299264](https://www.flickr.com/photos/wwwuppertal/8298299264) [CC BY-NC 2.0 ([creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.0))].
- ) Page 27: Poinsettias on the MVLC altar, photograph, 2020, by Troy Kehm-Goins.

Songs printed include:

- ) “O Come, All Ye Faithful.” Text: attr. John Francis Wade; tr. Frederick Oakeley, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2. Music: attr. John Francis Wade. Public domain.
- ) “Angels We Have Heard on High.” Text: French carol; tr. H.F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864. Music: French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes. Public domain.
- ) “Psalm 96: Today Is Born Our Savior.” Text: Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 11-12, 13; verses trans. © 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C.; refrain trans. © 1969 ICEL. Music: Howard Hughes, SM © 1976 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709305.
- ) “Go Tell It on the Mountain.” Text: African American spiritual, refrain; verses by John W. Work Jr. Music: go tell it on the mountain, 7 6 7 6 with refrain; African American spiritual; harm. by Robert J. Batastini © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.
- ) “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.” Text: Charles Wesley. Music: Felix Mendelssohn; arr. Williams H. Cummings. Public domain.
- ) “Silent Night, Holy Night.” Text: Joseph Mohr; tr. John F. Young. Music: Franz Gruber. Public domain. Arranged by Trevor Manor.
- ) “Joy to the World.” Text: Issac Watts. Music: English melody, 18<sup>th</sup> Century; arr. Lowell Mason. Public domain.
- ) “Great Thanksgiving;” “Preface;” “Sanctus;” and “Lamb of God” are from “Holy Communion, Setting Four” of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006 by Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Published by Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #15515-LIT.



# Worship Leaders

PREACHER/PRESIDER

Rev. Briana R. Merkle

DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES

Susan Bloomfield

CANTOR

Amy Fuller

TRUMPET

Don Neptun

LECTOR

Ken Edmonds

VIDEOGRAPHER

David Burch

VIDEO OVERLAY

Marlene Wright

SOUND

Beth Ann Johnson

ALTAR GUILD

Flora Larson, Diane Nelson

# Adult Education (via Zoom)

## **“The Forgotten Luther” with Pastor Paul Wee**

Epiphany means “manifestation,” a surprising, unexpected moment, a burst of light that illuminates the darkness. It recalls the star of Bethlehem and the visit of the three wise men, the Magi, to see the infant Jesus. Epiphany in the Western church begins on Wednesday, January 6 and continues to Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

Epiphany is a time to “open our eyes and ears” to grasp the meaning of those special moments in life that are unexpected, that catch us off guard, take us by surprise, and sometimes leave us breathless. These moments can be small and personal, like a baby discovered alive two weeks after an earthquake. They can be large and globally significant, like the fall of the Berlin Wall. In every case, such moments, or epiphanies, disclose something—about the world, about ourselves and perhaps also about God. The question for us is this: *Can we see, hear, and be grasped by their meaning?*

The first five Wednesdays of Epiphany 2021 will look at five “epiphanies” of the Reformation. They came in moments of insight to Martin Luther. They might come as a surprise to us as well.

### **7:00 p.m. via Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84766484362>

Full Zoom meeting information can be found at  
<https://mtviewlutheran.org/the-forgotten-luther>

### **Wednesdays 1/6 + 1/13 + 1/20 + 1/20 + 1/27 + 2/3**

- 〕 Martin Luther’s War on Poverty: The Common Chest
- 〕 Empowering the Common People: The Role of Youth and Women
- 〕 Reclaiming the Church’s Public Witness: The Political Role of the Church
- 〕 The Subversive Luther: When Do We “Obey God Rather Than Men”?
- 〕 Reclaiming the Vision of World Community: Luther and the Global Mission of the Church