

O Come, O Come:
Thou Day Spring from on High



December 25th, 2023
Immanuel Lutheran Church

*The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.
Those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a
light has dawned. -Matthew 4:16*

Prelude
Ringing of Bells
Welcome

Hymn of Invocation #LSB 379

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Stand

Opening Versicles

The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light.

**Those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.** *Matthew 4:16*

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.

**Whoever follows me will never walk in
darkness, but will have the light of life."** *John 8:12*

Arise, shine, for your light has come,

and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. *Isaiah 60:1*

**He dawns on them like the morning light, like
the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning,** *2 Samuel 23:4*

The sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its
wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the
stall. *Malachi 4:2*

**The city does not need the sun or the moon to
shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light,
and the Lamb is its lamp.** *Revelation 21:23*

The LORD is my light and my salvation-- whom
shall I fear?

**The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom
shall I be afraid?** *Psalms 27:1*

"Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ
will shine on you." *Ephesians 5:14*

**The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great
light. Those dwelling in the region and shadow of
death, on them a light has dawned.** *Matthew 4:16*

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Salvation

- ☒ Heavenly Father, as we come before your presence this morning, we confess that we have daily sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not always walked according to the light. We have preferred the darkness, for our deeds were evil. We have not honored you with our lips. We have not shined our own light out into the world. We have too many times hidden the light of faith and love under a basket so as not to share it with others. Forgive us, Lord. And through your Son, Jesus Christ, dispel all darkness from us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may walk according to the light of your word.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, You have sent Your Son into the world to be the light of the world. And through him, you brought the light of faith and healing to your people. We thank you for sending Jesus to dispel the darkness from us and to call us to live in the light within the church. We thank you for gathering us together as your church where you daily and richly forgive us our sins. Give us the confidence and strength in knowing that we are your people, cherished, loved, and forgiven through Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2–7

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

³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

P This is the word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Revelation 21:1–5, 22–23

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

²²And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

P This is the word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1–20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”
¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn #357 vv.1, 6-7 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Sermon

Reflection Hymn # 388 *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Stand

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Distribution Hymn: Silent Night

By: Tom Hepting

German:

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
 Alles schläft, einsam wacht
 Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
 Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
 Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
 Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
 Hirten erst kundgemacht,
 Durch der Engel Halleluja
 Tönt es laut von fern und nah:
 Christ, der Retter, ist da,
 Christ, der Retter, ist da!

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
 Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht
 Lieb aus deinem göttlichen Mund,
 Da uns schlägt die rettende Stund,
 Christ, in deiner Geburt,
 Christ, in deiner Geburt.

Translation:

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.

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!

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,
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Distribution Hymn # 361

Distribution Hymn # 364

Distribution Hymn # 374

Concluding Collect

Benediction

Departing Hymn #LSB 387

*O Little Town of Bethlehem
 Away in a Manger
 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

Joy to the World