



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2020

WELCOME

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

HYMN 83, verses 1 and 3

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light:
Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him
perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in
glory everlasting. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

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.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 96, VERSES 1 AND 3

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

Presented by the children and youth of St. Andrew's

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The Rev. Melesa Skoglund

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers of the People by Wendy Claire Barrie, concluding collect by The Rev. Bill Tully

God of Love, on this holy night, you sent your son to be born among us, making us your children and holy, too. With prophets, shepherds and magi, may we seek Jesus and find him in everyone we meet.

God of Love,
Hear our prayer.

God of the angels whose song was "Peace on earth, goodwill to all", we pray for the leaders of this nation, and this world. May conflicts end, divisions cease, and justice prevail.

God of Love,
Hear our prayer.

God of the shepherds who shared good news of great joy, we pray for the Church and all who minister in it. May we be messengers of hope, inclusion and love for your people everywhere.

God of Love,
Hear our prayer.

God of the manger, you came to us a helpless baby, cradled in straw because there was no room at the inn. We pray for those who are homeless or hungry, sick or in need.

God of Love,
Hear our prayer.

God of heaven and earth, we pray for those who have died and those who mourn.

God of Love,
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant concludes:

Son of God, child of Mary
Born in the stable at Bethlehem,
Be born again in us this day
That through us the world may know
The wonder of your love. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Hymn 100, v. 1 and 2

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

DISMISSAL

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Thank you

Members of the virtual choir for hymns 96 and 100 are from St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Watertown, WI: Amy Dunlop, Georgia Irre, Vicki Wright, Carol Johnson, Florrie McCard, Steve Simposon and Peter Wright; Caroline Senn, music director and organist and members and friend of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Madison, WI: Katie Bultmann, Stephanie Elkins, Ashley Cushman, Anne Keller, Anne Allen, Ritchie Rheame, Kelly Sinclair, Guy Stalnaker, Judy Burnham (Colorado), and John Mullen; Ken Stancer, music director and organist.