

# ***Scripture & Carols Christmas Day Worship***

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**

**10:00 a.m.**

***First Lutheran Church***

**Pastor Bryan Anderson**



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*Today we worship with the scriptures and carols of Christmas.  
Take time before the worship begins to prepare yourself for a journey.  
Our journey begins with the prophets who foretold the coming of a savior.  
Our trip concludes at the manger with the shepherds and later the wise men.*

## **Prelude**

**Carol** (*congregation stands*) “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”(No. 45)

Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
Oh come ye, oh come ye, to Bethlehem,  
come and behold him, born the king of angels.

Refrain: Oh come let us adore him, oh come let us adore him,  
oh 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, in the highest. (*Refrain*)

## **Responsive Reading**

P: Come, all who are faithful. Look and see what God has done!

**C: We peer into a manger and behold the Child of promise.**

P: It is the season to rejoice and sing!

**C: For God has come among us in Jesus to bring hope to every heart.**

P: Come, all who are faithful.

**C: Look and see what the Lord has done.**

**Carol** “Your Little Ones, Dear Lord” (No. 52)

Your little ones dear Lord are we, and come your lowly bed  
to see, enlighten every soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.

Oh draw us wholly to you Lord, and to us all your grace  
accord, true faith and love to us impart, that we may hold  
you in our heart. (*congregation is seated*)

**Scripture**      **Preparing the Way: Isaiah 40:3-5, 10-11**

**Carol** “Holy Child Within the Manger” (No. 638)

Holy Child within the manger, long ago yet ever near;  
come as friend to every stranger, come as hope for every fear.  
As you lived to heal the broken, greet the outcast, free the bound,  
as you taught us love unspoken, teach us now where you are found.

Once again we tell the story, how your love for us was shown,  
when the image of your glory, wore an image like our own.  
Come enlighten with your wisdom, come and fill us with your grace.  
May the fire of your compassion, kindle every land and race.

Holy Child within the manger, lead us ever in your way,  
so we see in every stranger how you come to us today.  
In our lives and in our living give us strength to live as you,  
that our hearts might be forgiving and our spirits strong and true.

**Scripture      A New Ruler Will Arise: Micah 5:2**

**Carol** “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” (No. 54)

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold.  
“Peace on the earth goodwill to all, from heaven’s all gracious king.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

**Scripture      A Coming Sign: Isaiah 7:10-14**

**Carol** “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” (No. 34)

Oh come oh come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to you  
O Israel.

Oh come strong Branch of Jesse free, your own from Satan’s  
Tyranny, from depths of hell your people save, and give them  
Victory o’er the grave. (*Refrain*)

**Scripture      The Trip to Bethlehem: Luke 2:1-5**

**Carol** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (No. 41)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy darks streets shineth, the everlasting light,  
the hopes and fears of all the years, are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

**Scripture      The Birth of Jesus: Luke 2:6-7**

**Carol** “Away in a Manger” (No. 644)

Away in a manger no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid  
down his sweet head, the stars in the sky looked down where  
he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

**Scripture      The Shepherds: Luke 2:8-14**

**Carol** “Angels We Have Heard on High” (No. 71)

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Glo—ria, in excelsis Deo, Glo—ria, 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.

**Scripture      The Wise Men: Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11**

**Carol** “We Three Kings” (No. 646)

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Oh star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

**We all must answer for ourselves:** “What Child Is This” (No. 40)

What child is this who laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet, with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch  
are keeping? This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard  
and angels sing, haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son  
of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing,  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

## Sermon

### Prayer (*congregation stands*)

P: Let us pray.

**C: As we kneel before the manger to honor you Savior, we acknowledge our unworthiness to behold the Son of God. Therefore we confess our sin and call upon you to remember us and to save us. Amen**

P: God has assured us that by a body broken and blood outpoured, Jesus Christ frees us from all our sins and extends the promise of eternal life to all who believe in his name.

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

**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**

**Communion** (*All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in this meal for forgiveness may commune.*)

### Blessing (*congregation stands*)

P: May the God of peace himself make you pure, and may your spirit and body be kept sound and blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

**C: Amen**

### Closing Carol "Joy to the World" (No. 39)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive its 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 earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

### Dismissal

P: Glory to God in the highest,

**C: and peace to God's people on earth!**

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**A very Merry Christmas to all!** We give thanks for all who join in worship this afternoon especially guests.

Any offering may be deposited in the offering plates as you depart.