

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
CHRISTMAS EVE
December 24, 2025
8:00 p.m.

Silent Night



**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
CHRISTMAS EVE
December 24, 2025
8:00 p.m.**

IN THE NAME OF JESUS, WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S!

The Holy Boy	Organ	John Ireland
And a Little Child Shall Lead Them	Jubilation Choir	Text: Richard Leach Setting: Roy Hopp
Noël XII - Noël Suisse	Organ	Louis-Claude Daquin
Good Christian Friends Rejoice	Jubilation Choir	medieval Latin Tr. John M Neale
Silent Night	Piano	Arr. Robert J. Powell
Gloria of the Angels	Jubilation Choir	Douglas E. Wagner
Gesú Bambino	Violin / Organ	Pietro Yon Arr. Jeff Cranfill



Violin: Shaw-Hwa Yang
Piano: Dale Rogers
Jubilation Choir: Linda Berg, Tamara Brown, Melissa Hecht,
Janet Poore, Arthur Erbert, Mauro Erbert, Richard Huber,
Bob Juenger, Jerry Meyer, Pastor Mark Shaltanis

Choirmaster and Organist: Kantor Aaron Jansen

O come, O 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 thee, O Israel!**

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

INTROIT

from Psalm 98

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

He has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

PRAYER

Let us pray. O Emmanuel, our king and our Lord, the anointed for the nations and their Savior;

Come and save us, O Lord our God, that here on earth we may walk in the light of your presence, and in the last day wake to the brightness of your glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(As the cross is brought forward, the Congregation turns to face the front)

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the_angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” *Refrain***

Refrain

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

- 2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the_incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain***

- 3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. *Refrain***

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Dearly beloved of God, we come together on this night to hear of the great miracle whereby God became flesh and dwelt among us. Because He did this in order to free us from our sin, let us first consider our transgressions and confess these before God and one another.

(We kneel for silent reflection and confession)

God of our Salvation:

we have sinned in our relationships with you and with one another. We have hurt others through our words and actions and have failed to respond to your life-giving Spirit. Have mercy on us for the sake of Jesus. Forgive us by grace, renew us in love and lead us with joy, that we may bear your peace to all the world. Amen.

To all who receive Him, who believe in His name, He gives the right to become children of God. Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a minister of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE (Stand)

Angels We have Heard on High

LSB 368

- 1 **Angels we have heard on high,
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
 And the mountains in reply,
 Echoing their joyous strains. *Refrain***

Refrain

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

- 2 **Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why your joyous strains prolong?
 What the gladsome tidings be
 Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain***
- 3 **Come to Bethlehem and see
 Him whose birth the angels sing;
 Come, adore on bended knee
 Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain***

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

JUBILATION CHOIR

Angels' Carol

Words and music by John Rutter

Have you heard the sounds of the angel voices
Ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly
As a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?

Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven
To the humble shepherds who have waited long?
Gloria in excelsis, Deo! Gloria in excelsis, Deo!
Hear the angels sing their joyful song.

He is come in peace in the winter's stillness
Like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night.
He is come in joy like the sun at morning
Filling all the world with radiance and with light.

He is come in love as the child of Mary
In a simple stable, we have seen his birth.
Gloria in excelsis, Deo! Gloria in excelsis, Deo!
Hear the angels singing 'Peace on Earth'.

He will bring new light to a world in darkness
Like a bright star shining in the skies above.
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations
When he comes to reign in purity and love.

Let the Earth rejoice at the Saviour's coming
Let the Heavens answer with the joyful mourn.
Gloria in excelsis, Deo! Gloria in excelsis, Deo!
Hear the angels singing, 'Christ is born'.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN (Stand)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB 379

**1 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:**

Refrain

**O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!**

**2 Highest, most holy,
Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain***

**3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: *Refrain***

**4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain***

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David; to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they had heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. (KJV)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON (Be seated)

1 “From heav’n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev’ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:

2 “To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.

4 “He will on you the gifts bestow
Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us His glory share.

NICENE CREED

Hymnal, back cover

OFFERING

Offerings support the church’s mission work – both here and through our many partners. Offerings may be placed in the box at the sanctuary entrance or sent to the church through our website or the mail. **Fellowship Cards** help us welcome new people and track participation. Please fill one out and place it in the offering box following the service.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Kneel)

The response to each petition will be:

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord have mercy.

OFFERTORY (Stand)

LSB 621

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.

2 King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav’nly food.



COMMUNION LITURGY

PREFACE (*Stand*)

LSB 160

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.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

LSB 161

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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
 forever and ever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

♩ 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.

DISTRIBUTION (Be seated)

Those wishing to commune at the foot of the steps should come forward first. Those wishing to commune at the altar rail should come forward after these, front rows first, from both sides of the aisle. After receiving, all should return to their seats. A common dismissal will be given at the end.

- 1 Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
But there is room and welcome there for me.
- 2 In that unlikely place I find Him as they said:
Sweet newborn babe, how frail! And in a manger bed:
A still, small voice to cry one day for me,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.
- 3 How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
His prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.
- 4 Can I, will I forget how Love was born, and burned
Its way into my heart—unasked, unforced, unearned,
To die, to live, and not alone for me,
To die, to live, and not alone for me?

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Infant holy,
Infant lowly,
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing,
Little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging,
Angels singing,
Bells are ringing,
Tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all! | 2 Flocks were sleeping,
Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory,
Heard the story,
Tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing,
Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing,
Greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you! |
|--|--|

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (Stand)

O God, as you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING THE CANDLELIGHT

*(The congregation's candles are lighted from the Christ Candle. In passing the flame, **DO NOT TIP A LIGHTED CANDLE**. The candles remain burning until after the benediction.)*

HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night!

LSB 363

1 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.

2 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!

3 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.

PRAYER

BLESSING (Extinguish candles following the Blessing)

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature
sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

**4 He rules the world with truth and
grace**
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE WITH TRUMPET

Joy to the World
Setting: Kristina Langlois

THOSE SERVING IN OUR MIDST:

Greeter: Steve Berg
Reader: Lynn Jacquez
Communion Assistant: Jill Hecht
Acolytes: Miriam Buuck
Flute: Stephanie Poore
Trumpet: Amelia Jansen

Acknowledgments

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357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47 Text and tune: Public domain

368 Angels We Have Heard on High Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt. Text and tune: French Text and tune: Public domain

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt. Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786 Text and tune: Public domain

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann Text and tune: Public domain

369 Where Shepherds Lately Knelt Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021 Text: © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005326 Tune: © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005326

393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly Text: tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt. Text and tune: Polish Text and tune: Public domain

363 Silent Night, Holy Night Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85 Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863 Text and tune: Public domain

387 Joy to the World Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

7426 IDYLWOOD ROAD

FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22043

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Leadership Officers, Working Boards, Chinese Ministry, The Preschool,
Sunday School, LWML, Youth Group, Altar Guild, Choirs,
Caring Ministry, Safety Ministry, Leisure Group
Other seasonal and occasional working groups

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Mark Shaltanis, Pastor

The Rev. Xinhong “Chris” Yang, Associate and Chinese Pastor

The. Rev. Wayne Lehrer, Pastor Emeritus

Kantor Aaron Jansen, Director of Parish Music

Jill Cha, Preschool Director

Tawni Harrell, Director of Youth

Norm Williams, Business Manager

Linda Fekete, Parish Secretary

Richard Irwin, Building Manager

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