



OUR SAVIOR'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 19, 2021



Light for Our Darkness

*A Children's Christmas Service
concerning Jesus, the Light of the World*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – Creator of the Stars of Night

Children: verses 1–3, Congregation: verses 4–5

- 1 Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.*
- 2 In sorrow that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe,
you came to save a ruined race
with healing gifts of heav'nly grace.*
- 3 When earth drew on to darkest night,
you came, but not in splendor bright,
not as a king, but as a child
of Mary, Virgin mother mild.*
- 4 At your great name, majestic now,
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
all things on earth with one accord
join those in heav'n to call you Lord.**
- 5 To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.**

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Text: Latin, 5th–10th cent. Tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt Sarum plainsong, c. 9th cent.
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PSALM 89 (*selected verses, read responsively*)

Pastor: I will sing of the LORD's great love forever;

**All: with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known
through all generations.**

Pastor: I will declare that your love stands firm forever,

Children: that you have established your faithfulness in heaven
itself.

Pastor: You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,

**Cong: I have sworn to David my servant, 'I will establish your
line forever**

Children: and make your throne firm through all generations."

Pastor: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your
throne;

Cong: love and faithfulness go before you.

Pastor: Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,

All: who walk in the light of your presence, LORD.

Prayer

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness
of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the
wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in
the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

All: Amen.

SONG – On Christmas Night All Christians Sing *Grades 2-4*

1. WE ARE LOST IN DARKNESS

Narrations & Recitations

Confession

All:

Almighty God, you created us to enjoy the light of your truth and life, but we have loved the darkness of sin. We have filled our lives with all kinds of evil. We cannot even count our sins, and by our inherited nature we try to hide from you. For these sins we are guilty and deserve to be condemned. But we appeal to your mercy. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus our Savior.

Absolution

Pastor:

God knew that we were lost in the darkness of sin and death. But he did not leave us lost, hopeless, and terrified. He sent light to shine in our darkness that we would be forgiven and saved. The light from heaven is Jesus Christ, God's only Son. He came into our world to be the light of God's forgiveness. Because of Jesus' perfect life and death for us, God declares that we are not condemned for our sins. Rejoice! Your sins are forgiven!

HYMN – Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Congregation

- 1 Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!**
- 2 Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;
Through thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto thee! Draw me unto thee!**
- 3 Now through his Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death o'er us had reigned Through sin and vanity;
He for us obtained Eternal joy on high.
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!**

**4 Oh, where shall joy be found?
Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all his saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!**

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.

2. THE LIGHT COMES INTO THE DARKNESS

Narrations & Recitations

Luke Chapter 2

Cong: In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

Children: (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

Cong: And everyone went to their own town to register.

Children: So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

Cong: He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

Children: While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,

All: and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Song – Behold, a Branch Is Growing

Grades 5–7

3. GOD SENT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Narrations & Recitations

HYMN – Silent Night

Congregation

- 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.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848, abr.; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85.

Recitation

SONG – Away in a Manger

Prek-1 & Congregation

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

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

**Cong: Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with you there.**

Text: *Little Children's Book*, Philadelphia, 1885, st. 1–2; *Vineyard Songs*, Louisville, 1892, st. 3.

4. WE TOO ARE LIGHTS

Narrations & Recitations

Grades 2-7:

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house (Matthew 5:14,15).

Congregation:

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16).

Narration

SONG – See in Yonder Manger Low

Children

RESPONSIVE READING FROM JOHN CHAPTER 1

Pastor: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Children: He was with God in the beginning.

Pastor: Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Cong: In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

Pastor: The light shines in the darkness,

Children: and the darkness has not overcome it.

Pastor: There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.

Cong: The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

Pastor: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

**All: We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

SERMON

Offering

Prayer

Shine forth, dear Jesus, Light of the world, on all who walk in darkness. Grant us your grace to be your torchbearers telling the world of your love. Open the eyes of all to see your light and follow you to eternal glory. We ask this for your love's sake, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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
forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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

**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 th’ incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Hail, the heav’nly 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 we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, abr., alt.

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR’S

Welcome to worship, especially our guests! We are delighted to have you with us. If you are looking for a church home, we are happy to share ours with you. If we haven’t seen you in a while, it is great to see you today! May God bless your time with us richly.

Thank you to Alli Ruether, Eliana Screnock, and Emma Stelzer for providing piano music before the service and during the offering. And thank you to Dan Stelzer for playing guitar for the PreK–1 song.

This Week's Opportunities for Growing in Christ		
Today (12/19)	9:30 AM 10:30 AM 3:00 PM	Sunday School & Bible Class Children's Christmas Service NLHS Christmas Concert
Wednesday	4:00 PM 6:30 PM	Catechism Small Group Bible Study
Friday	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
Saturday	9:00 AM	Christmas Day Worship
Sunday 12/26	10:30 AM	<i>No Sunday School / Bible Class</i> Worship with Communion

Pastoral Call Our Savior's issued a divine call to Pastor Mark Jacobson. He currently serves at Grace, Glendale AZ. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he deliberates where he may best serve our Lord.

Memorials We are grateful for gifts given in memory of:

David Anklam from Judy Anklam & family, Keith & Laura Brandt,
Ellen Fitzke, Bob & Janice Gresens, DuWayne & Shirley Marquardt

Violette Clark from DuWayne & Shirley Marquardt

Rev. Russel Kobs from family friends, Keith & Laura Brandt,
DuWayne & Shirley Marquardt

Vernon Marquardt from Bill & Sue Unruh

Jeanette Mathwich Anonymous gift to missions

Gordon Schubring from Keith & Laura Brandt

Bob Taylor from Rolain Scharbarth (Bob's godfather)

Pearl Williamson from Ellen Fitzke, Rick & Karen Leopold,
Bill & Sue Unruh

Frank Raasch from Joann Raasch (Beth Krohn's parents) on the
10th anniversary of Frank's entrance into heaven

Blessed be their memories.

Thanks be to God for the love which led to these gifts.

2022 Offering Envelopes Pick up your envelopes today in the office link. Please do not use these envelopes until January since your number may have changed. Thank you!

In the Narthex:

- Forward in Christ
- Meditations
- Portals of Prayer
- Christmas Cards
- 2022 God's Creation Calendars

Our Stewardship of God's Gifts: December 12, 2021

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Debt Red</u>	<u>Thanksgiving</u>	<u>Advent</u>
\$3,923.00	\$205.00	\$140.00	\$5.00	\$383.00
<u>Chr Eve</u>	<u>Chr Day</u>	<u>NY Eve</u>	<u>NLHS Tuition</u>	<u>NLHS Op</u>
\$50.00	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
<u>Plate</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Bldg Maint</u>	<u>Memorial</u>	<u>Chr Gifts/Bags</u>
\$37.00	\$240.00	\$75.00	\$1,055.00	\$310.00
<u>OSSchool</u>	<u>School Fees</u>	<u>Publications</u>	<u>Magic Paper Box</u>	
\$25.00	\$1,486.33	\$2.00	\$10.31	

Attendance: Sunday Worship – 76, online – 19 Total = 95
Bible Class – 22

Serving Today

- Minister – Pastor Andrew Franzo
- Organist – Marie Kurth
- Usher – Dan Stelzer



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