



**Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA**

*"Encouraging faith and proclaiming God's love by Gathering, Growing and Giving."*

Christmas Eve Worship

*Candlelight/Communion Worship*

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**This worship is being livestreamed. Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreeing to be on our live broadcast.**

*NOTE: **Bold text** indicates worshippers' response, and '\*' means please stand as able.*

PRELUDE "O Holy Night"  
WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

Sung by Keith Lee / Performed by Michelle Young

**GATHERING**

\* ADVENT WREATH READING/LIGHTING

Reader: Please light candles 1 and 2. With the Habakkuk and Esther, we have lit a beacon of hope for the waiting, and a fire of courage for the called.

**All: Please light candles 3 and 4. With Isaiah and Joseph, we have lit a light to the nations and a declaration of trust in your promised redemption.**

Reader: Now the time has arrived, Holy God, the time long promised, long awaited, long hoped for. The Word has been made flesh, and dwells among us, now and forever.

**All: Please light the Christ Candle. With all the angels in the heavenly chorus, we light the Christ Candle in remembrance of the one true light that cannot be overcome, and with the angels we proclaim, "He is born!"<sup>1</sup>**

HYMN # 55 Join in singing the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> verse of "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

\* P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

\* CONFESSION We confess our sins before God and one another. *Pause for silence and reflection.*  
Radiant God, **ALL: You have come to live among us, yet we fail time and again to see you in the faces of our neighbors. We look to ourselves instead of those in need. We seek the shallow comforts of things we can buy instead of the deep and lasting comfort of your presence. Forgive our stubborn refusal to see, and open our eyes to the joy and wonder of your incarnation. Amen.<sup>1</sup>**

\* FORGIVENESS Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy. The God of boundless grace forgives you all your sins, renewing your spirit for the sake of Immanuel, † God with us.<sup>1</sup>  
**Amen.**

\* GREETING The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

\*KYRIE

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for all salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of Christ, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**



Ⓐ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

\* P: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY Let us pray. Holy God, **With Mary and Joseph we celebrate the birth of your beloved son. Give us hearts as humble as Jesus' birth, that we might be moved by the wonder of this precious gift. Amen.**

### GROWING

\* HYMN, #67 *Away in a Manger*

1 **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.**

"Away in the Manger" was reprinted with permission under One License #A-724679. All rights reserved.

Text: North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

*God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.*

\*P: THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Luke the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

<sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

<sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. The Gospel of the Lord **All: Praise to you O Christ.**

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Pastor Mary Eide

HYMN #60 *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 angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

REFRAIN Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

## GIVING

### LITANY OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

Our faith is in the creator of heaven and earth; **I believe in God, the Father almighty** God so loved the created, that he sent his only Son; **I believe in Jesus Christ, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

Jesus came to this world to teach us to love God and one another, and how to live well with and love our neighbors. He came with a mission from our creator; **He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

But death and sin had no hold on him, and so he went on to proclaim this good news; **He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again.**

And then it was time for the believers to continue Jesus' work from the Father, **so He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

But as promised, God sent an Advocate, a helper for the universal Christian Church. **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

*\*Or, He descended to the dead.*

PRAYERS AND PETITIONS (L: Emmanuel, God with us, **All: You hear our prayer. )**

*NOTE: Giving to support God's ministry at Shepherd of the Hill can be mailed to (Mailing address: 207 University St., Elk Mound, WI 54739 – OR – as a 'bill pay' on your bank/credit union account – OR – go to <https://www.sothem.org/give> to make a one time or reoccurring donation. Setting up an account with GivePlus offers you control on amount and timing of your giving that comes from your checking or savings account.*

\* OFFERING PRAYER Gracious God, **we cannot hope to repay the gift of your son, our savior Jesus Christ. With humble hearts, we can offer only what first belonged to you. Accept these gifts for that sake of him whose birth we celebrate. Amen.**<sup>1</sup>

\* GREAT THANKSGIVING 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 our thanks and praise**

\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\* 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

\* INVITATION God proclaims the birth of God's son, Jesus Christ, and invites us all to the eternal party. Come share in the celebration of our redemption, for all is prepared.<sup>1</sup>

HOLY COMMUNION – *All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the bread and wine are welcome to commune with us. Gluten-free wafers available and give "thumbs up" for grape juice. Children who do not yet receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing. If you or a family member would like communion brought to them, please tell an usher.*

\* POST COMMUNION PRAYER ... **Amen.**

\* [Carefully light the candles you've received as we sing ] **"Silent Night"** HYMN #65

**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; Heavenly hosts sing, alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

[*Candles are extinguished.*] Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885

\* ANNOUNCEMENTS/BLESSING Always remember and share with others the Good News that Jesus came to live among us. Now go into the world with the divine blessing and freedom of having the Holy Spirit within you, + your Savior beside you, and your divine Father reaching out to you. **Amen.**

\* HYMN #39 *Joy to the World*

**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.**

**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.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

BELLS AND DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Michelle Young

Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS028313.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. <sup>1</sup> Narrative Lectionary *Programs 1 22-23* Worship resources Copyright © 2022 Clergy Stuff. One License Podcast / Streaming License A-724679/ CCLI Streaming License #1727740

### THIS WEEK AT CHURCH AND BEYOND OUR DOORS

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>4pm</b>	<b>- Christmas Eve Communion Worship</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	
	10am	- Christmas Day Communion Worship
<b>MONDAY</b>	7pm	- AA Meeting
<b>TUESDAY</b>	4-6pm	- Food Pantry
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>NO CONFIRMATION CLASS</b>	
<b>THURSDAY</b>	3pm-7pm	- 7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation class at Action City
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	10am-Noon	- Food Pantry
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	<b>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	
	10am	- New Year's Day Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTENT FORMS/TIME & TALENT SHEETS for 2023 giving can still be dropped off at the church or mailed in throughout the rest of the year.

12/29<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY, 3pm-7pm the 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation class will be hanging out at the trampoline park at Action City. If you haven't done so already, please contact Kris Jenson (715-563-1402) to confirm whether or not you are participating and whether or not you need a ride from the church. We will be leaving from the church at 3pm, playing from 3:30-5:30, eating and then returning to the church by 7pm.

- Luther League will pay for the entrance fee to the Trampoline Park
- Students need to pay for the special Trampoline Park socks (if you already have a pair, bring them)
- Students need to bring money for food and any other activities they will do
- Parents need to complete **Action City** Parent Permission slip BEFORE students arrive
- We need to know how many students need a ride, and if additional drivers are needed.

FYI: Pastor Mary will be working from home and visiting members in the week ahead. If you need to reach her, please contact her at 715-308-0652 or [meide@luthersem.edu](mailto:meide@luthersem.edu)

GRIEF SHARE a thirteen-week grief support group, will begin meeting **on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Anyone who is dealing with the loss of a loved one is invited to attend these gatherings at **Trinity United Methodist Church (105 S. Holly Ave.) from 1:30-3:30pm**. This program consists of videos featuring individuals sharing their grief story, as well as leading grief recovery experts; in person group discussions about the weekly video content, and a personal workbook with study exercises that reinforce the weekly session topics.

Call Denise at Trinity United Methodist Church Elk Mound at (715) 879-5596 to register and purchase your workbook for \$15.00. Workbooks are available at Trinity UMC Elk Mound

**MARK JANUARY 29<sup>th</sup> on your calendars for our ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/BURNING OF THE MORTGAGE/WORSHIP/POTLUCK, it all starts at 10am with a brief worship service.**

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church 207 University Street, Elk Mound, WI 54739

Office Phone: 715-879-5115 Email: [sothlc@sothem.org](mailto:sothlc@sothem.org) Website [www.sothem.org](http://www.sothem.org) On Facebook

Pastor Mary Eide (C) 715-308-0652 [meide@luthersem.edu](mailto:meide@luthersem.edu) Custodian, Terry Stamm 715-379-3728

Sunday School Coordinators: Jaime Folczyk [mjfolczyk@yahoo.com](mailto:mjfolczyk@yahoo.com) and Holly Sweeney [hollysweeney65@gmail.com](mailto:hollysweeney65@gmail.com)

Financial Secretary: Barb Vadnais [barbvadnais1@gmail.com](mailto:barbvadnais1@gmail.com)

*The story of our Savior's birth reminds us of how God  
works through the lives of ordinary people  
and ordinary circumstances.*

*How God's love and goodness has the power  
to overcome evil intent*

*and bring hope and peace into the world.*

*YOU have that peace and love to share.*

*So go now and be a gift to the world*

*by sharing the greatest gift with others*

*...the gift of the child born in Bethlehem.*