



CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS & CAROLS



CHURCH OF THE
SAVIOR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2020



Welcome to Church of the Savior

If You are Visiting: We'd love to meet you, even if only virtually! Please email Fr. Kevin at kevin@friendsofthesavior.org to introduce yourself and learn more about Church of the Savior.

About our Worship: We use an Anglican liturgy. Liturgy simply means that everyone gets to participate, so please join in as you feel comfortable. You can't make a mistake.

Children & Youth: While services are livestreamed, children and youth are strongly invited to join in alongside everyone else. For additional ideas to engage children, see Savior's family newsletter or contact Sarah Lindsay at sarah@friendsofthesavior.org. We also invite children to call Pastor Mary; email Mary at mary@friendsofthesavior.org to set up a time. Youth are meeting virtually; contact Fr. Andrew Unger at andrewdunger@gmail.com for details.

On Christmas, we Celebrate the Word of God Becoming Flesh: when Jesus was born, God spoke not just through prophets' words but as a living person. Frederick Buechner says, "When God spoke in Jesus Christ, what came out was not Hebrew or the King James Version or a sentiment suitable for hanging in a pastor's study. On the contrary, 'the Word become flesh' (John 1:17)." Christmas reminds us that God came not as a disembodied concept, but as a person born into our midst.

Want to Stay in Touch? Let us know how at FriendsOfTheSavior.org/visitor

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE & WELCOME

Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
All: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

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 ye nations rise;
Join the triumph of the skies.
With th'angelic hosts proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King.



"Seeing Shepherds," oil on canvas
by Daniel Bonnell (American)

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 one with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King.

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 we no more may die,
Born to raise the lost on earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King

Celebrant: Christ is born. Alleluia, alleluia.

All: O come let us adore him. Alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

O Come All Ye Faithful

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
O sing all ye bright
Hosts of heav'n above
Glory to God all
Glory in the highest

Yea Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing

LESSONS & CAROLS

PROPHETS

ISAIAH 9:2-7

Leader: We are here to celebrate the mystery of Christmas, the time when we are all on the way to Bethlehem.

But who will show us the way?

The prophets. Prophets listen to God. So they can show us the way.

Isaiah was a prophet who listened and spoke the word of God. He said one day the Messiah would be born. The Messiah would be like a light shining in the darkness. This is what Isaiah said:

² The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

³ You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as warriors rejoice
when dividing the plunder.

⁴ For as in the day of Midian's defeat,
you have shattered
the yoke that burdens them,
the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor.

⁵ Every warrior's boot used in battle
and every garment rolled in blood
will be destined for burning,
will be fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the Lord Almighty
will accomplish this.

We now light the first Advent candle.

Leader: Here is Isaiah. Prophets like Isaiah can show us the way to Bethlehem.

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

Leader: Mary and Joseph are on the way to Bethlehem. They can show us the way. They have good news. An angel came to Mary and said,

²⁸ “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”



² In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ 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. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

We now light the second Advent candle.

Leader: Here are Mary and Joseph and their donkey on their way to Bethlehem where Jesus will be born. They can show us the way.

O Little Town Of Bethlehem

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 dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep
The angels keep their watch of wondering love
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to us on earth



“The Birth of Jesus,” watercolor
on silk by Ki-Chang Kim
(Korean)

Leader: The shepherds are on the way to Bethlehem. They can show us the way. They also have good news.

⁸ [They were] living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”
¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

We now light the third Advent candle.

Leader: Here are the shepherds and their sheep who are on the way to Bethlehem to see the special child who was born. They can show us they way.

What Child Is This

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

Why lies He in such mean estate
 Where ox and ass are feeding
 Good Christian fear for sinners here
 The silent Word is pleading
 Nails spear shall pierce Him through
 The cross be borne for me for you
 Hail hail the Word made flesh
 The Babe the Son of Mary



“The Birth of Jesus with Shepherds,” painting by François Vidil and Mafa Christians (Cameroon)

Leader: The Magi are on the way to Bethlehem. They can show us they way. The Magi saw a special star in the sky, a star for a king. They followed the star to Jerusalem, and asked King Herod,

² “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

We now light the fourth Advent candle.

Leader: Here are the Magi and their camel bringing gifts to the newborn king. They can show us the way.

We Three Kings (Kings Of Orient)

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and mountain
Following yonder star



“Adoration of the Magi,”
colored stencil print on
handmade washi paper by
Sadao Watanabe (Japanese)

Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever ceasing never
Over us all to reign

*O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light*

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising voices raising
Worship Him God on high

Myrrh is mine its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing sighing bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone cold tomb

Leader: Tonight is Christmas Eve, the night we celebrate the mystery of God becoming a person. Tonight we are all at Bethlehem to meet the Christ child, the special Son of God.

⁶ While [Mary and Joseph] were [in Bethlehem], the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ 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.

We now light the Christ candle.

Leader: Here is the newborn Christ child, lying in a manger bed...
Christ the Light, a Light for the whole world.

Christ is Light. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Silent Night

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
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

Silent night holy night
Wondrous star lend thy light
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born



"Mayan Madonna and Child,"
acrylic on wood by Fr. John
Giuliani (American)

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

O Come Let Us Adore Him

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

ADMINISTRATION FROM THE RESERVED SACRAMENT

Officiant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant: Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us:

All:



Our Fa - ther, Who art in hea - ven, hal - lo - wed be Thy Name.

Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.

Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses, as

we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead us not in -

to temp - ta - tion, but de - li - ver us from e - vil. For Thine is the

king - dom and the po - wer and the glo - ry, for - e - ver. A - men.

Officiant: The gift of God for the People of God. Take it in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

At this point, all who have the Reserved Sacrament will eat it together. If you do not have the sacrament, you may pray the following prayer.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

COMMUNION SONGS

O Holy Night

Solo performed by John Rakes

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;

*Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
O night, O holy night, O night divine.*

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming;
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand:
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from the Orient land,
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;

*He knows our need, To our weakness is no stranger!
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!*

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is Love and His gospel is Peace;
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease,
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful Chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise His Holy name!

*Christ is the Lord, Oh, praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory, evermore, evermore proclaim!*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"
Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn
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"O Come All Ye Faithful"
C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade
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"Joy To The World"
George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts
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"O Little Town Of Bethlehem"
Lewis Henry Redner | Phillips Brooks
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"What Child Is This (Greensleeves)"
Unknown | William Chatterton Dix
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"We Three Kings (Kings Of Orient)"
John Henry Hopkins Jr.
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"Silent Night"
Franz Xaver Gruber | John Freeman Young | Joseph Mohr
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"O Come Let Us Adore Him"
C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade
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"Lord's Prayer"
Tune © E. Johnson, arr. Erin Hollar Pacheco

"O Holy Night"
Adolphe Charles Adam | John Sullivan Dwight |
Placide Cappeau
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"Go Tell it on the Mountain"
John W. Work, Jr.
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THE BLESSING

Celebrant: May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

All: Amen.

There will now be a few announcements.

CLOSING HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born*

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday Service LiveStream: We continue to worship on Saturday through Zoom. [Access our services here.](#) To assist with worship, a copy of our Order of Worship is available on our [Sermons webpage](#) and will be emailed out every Friday through Breeze by Whitney Burns, our Communications Director.

End of the Year Sharing Service: During the final worship service of the year, we'll have a "sharing time" for people to talk about ways they saw God at work in the joys and pains of 2020. Join us Saturday evening, December 26, at our usual time of 5pm.

Pastoral Care over the Holidays: Fr. Kevin & Mtr. Karen will be taking a few final vacation days around Christmas and New Year's. If you need pastoral care, please contact Deacon Sandy Oyler at (630) 488-6326.

Wednesday Morning Prayer: We are hosting Morning Prayer at 8:00am on Wednesdays. Find the link to join the livestream service on our [Facebook Page](#) and weekly Newsletter.

Donations to Church of the Savior: There are two ways to give to Church of the Savior in this season: MAIL: Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187 and ONLINE: Visit our new [Giving page](#) on our website.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Zao Zoom Youth Room: Youth group calls take place on Sunday night and will resume on January 10. 6th-8th grade meets from 6:30-7:30pm and 9th-12th grade meets from 7:15-8:30pm. Email [Father Andrew Unger](#) for more information.

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Advent & Christmas at Savior

1st Week of Advent (November 28): “Why Haven’t You Torn the Sky Open Yet?” Fr. Josh Steele

2nd Week of Advent (December 5): Mark 1:1-8, “Wild Man: God sends the rough to get us ready,” Fr. Kevin Miller

3rd Week of Advent (December 12): John 1:6-8, 19-28, “A Voice for the Rejected God,” Fr. Kevin Miller

4th Week of Advent (December 19): Luke 1:26-38, “Mary’s Song For Her Sons,” Becky Castle Miller

December 24: Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols

December 26: End-of-the-Year Sharing Service

2nd Week of Christmas (January 2): Matt. 2:13-23 (Joseph, Mary, Jesus Escape to Egypt), Fr. Ron McGowin

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Aesthetics	Whitney Harrison
Altar & Acolytes	Sandy Oyler
Care Coordination	kevin@friendsofthesavior.org
College Ministry	Sarah Lindsay
Compassion Ministry	Luke & Christine Wulbecker
Finance	Janis Hultgren
Intercessory Prayer	sheri.l.abel@gmail.com
Meals Ministry	Cara Peterson
Nursery	Deb Nickerson
Prayer and Communion	Steve & Marj Mead
Prayers of the People	Deb Nickerson
Scripture Readers & Gatherings	Hope Grant
Setup	Angel Gonzalez
Social Media	Al Hsu
Audio Visual Team	Erik Peterson
Welcome Team	Christine Kindberg
Women’s Formation	Mary Jean Young

To ask about a ministry or volunteer to get involved, please talk with its leader (emails at <https://friendsofthesavior.org/team-leaders>) or with Pastor Sarah Lindsay (sarah@friendsofthesavior.org).

