



*CALVARY CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE
DECEMBER 18, 2015*

GOD'S PLAN THROUGH THE AGES: THE REDEEMER HAS COME!

1. God Carries out His Call for us Through the Geneology of Jesus Christ
2. God's Promise is Fulfilled
3. The Redeemer Comes to Zion
4. The Shepherds Rejoice
5. Kings Come From Afar
6. The World Comes to Worship the Christ

*Our children have prepared to lead a worship service tonight – not a play or program. It is the prayer of our faculty and students that the focus of our worshippers' attention will not be the children, but the Christ child in the manger. We ask that there be **no photography during the service**. The service will be made available on our church website and will also be made available on DVD when students return from Christmas Break. You may take pictures with your children after the service*

Offering: If you wish to make a free-will offering to support the work of Calvary Lutheran Church and School, you will find baskets located near the doors of the sanctuary as you exit.

INTRODUCTION: THE LORD, THE REDEEMER CALLS US BY NAME.

A Reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 43:1-3, 5-7, 11

But now, this is what the LORD says- He who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior... Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.... I, even I am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.”

“The Night Will Soon Be Ending”

Hymn 705

1. (Gr. 5-8)The night will soon be ending; The dawn cannot be far.
Let songs of praise ascending, now greet the Morning Star!
All you whom darkness frightens, with guilt or grief or pain,
God’s radiant Star now brightens, and bids you sing again.
2. (Gr. 5-8)The One whom angels tended, comes near, a child, to serve;
Thus God, the judge offended, bears all our sins deserve.
The guilty need not cower, for God has reconciled
Through his redemptive power, all those who trust this child.
3. (Cong.)**The earth in sure rotation, will soon bring morning bright.
So run where God’s salvation, glows in the stable light.
As old as sin’s perversion, is mercy’s vast design:
God brings a new creation – this child its seal and sign.**
4. (Cong.)**Yet nights will bring their sadness, and rob our hearts of peace,
And sin in all its madness, around us may increase.**
(Gr. 3-8 join.) **But now one Star is beaming, whose rays have pierced the night:
God comes for our redeeming, from sin’s oppressive might.**

5. (C /1-8) **God dwells with us in darkness, and makes the night as day;
Yet we resist the brightness, and turn from God away.
But grace does not forsake us, however far we run.
God claims us still as children, through Mary’s infant Son.**

**PART ONE: GOD’S CARRIES OUT HIS CALL FOR US THROUGH THE
GENEALOGY OF JESUS CHRIST.**

Our Savior from sin isn’t some mythic figure invented from someone’s over-active imagination. Our Savior is a real person whose life is rooted in history. The recounting of Jesus’ genealogy by Matthew testifies to the reality of the person whose birth we celebrate today – Jesus, the son of Mary.

A reading from Matthew

The genealogy unfolds, and God’s people multiply. As the Calvary sanctuary fills, picture God’s kingdom growing. The students will read the beginning lines and continue to lead the reading as worshippers stand and join by pews. Those seated in the front pews across the church will stand and join with Pews 1 & 2 starting, and continuing pew by pew with pew 3 until all members of the congregation are standing and joining in the reading. Pastor will direct each pew when to stand.

Matthew 1: 1-16

(Pastor) This is the genealogy of Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of David,
the son of Abraham:

(Students) Abraham was the father of Isaac,
Isaac the father of Jacob,
Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,
Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,
Perez the father of Hezron,
Hezron the father of Ram,
Ram the father of Amminadab,
Amminadab the father of Nahshon,
Nahshon the father of Salmon,
Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,
(Pews 1 & 2) **Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,**

**Obed the father of Jesse,
and Jesse the father of King David.**
(Pew 3) **David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,
Solomon the father of Rehoboam,**
(Pew 4) **Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
Abijah the father of Asa,**
(Pew 5) **Asa the father of Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,**
(Pew 6) **Jehoram the father of Uzziah,
Uzziah the father of Jotham,**
(Pew 7) **Jotham the father of Ahaz,
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,**
(Pew 8) **Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,
Manasseh the father of Amon,**
(Pew 9) **Amon the father of Josiah,
and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers
at the time of the exile to Babylon.**

(Pew 10) **After the exile to Babylon:
Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,**
(Pew 11) **Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
Zerubbabel the father of Abiud,**
(Pew 12) **Abiud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,**
(Pew 13) **Azor the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Akim,**
(Pew 14) **Akim the father of Eliud,
Eliud the father of Eleazar,**
(Pew 15) **Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob,**

(student) and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary,
and Mary was the mother of Jesus, who is called the Messiah.





o come all ye
FAITHFUL
Joyful & Triumphant

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”

Hymn 55

Grades K-8 vs. 1-2 (Cong. joins on refrain.)

1. 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.
**Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
2. God from true God, and Light from Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, to earth he comes,
Only begotten Son of God the Father.
**Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
3. (K-8/Cong.)
**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest.
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**
4. (K-8/Cong.)
**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.
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Kindergarten and Pre-School Recitation:

Clop, clop, clop went the donkey's feet,
Clop, clop, clop down the stoney street.
Nod, nod, nod went Mary's head.
She was tired, and she needed a bed.
Knock, knock, knock went Joseph at the door.
"Do you have room for anyone more?"
"No, no, no," the innkeeper said,
"I don't even have one more bed."
"Wait, wait, wait," the innkeeper said,
"You can use my stable for a bed."
"Shh, shh, shh...What is that I hear?
The cry of Baby Jesus, oh so dear!"

"I Am So Glad When Christmas Comes"

Hymn 51, vs. 1,2,5

1. I am so glad when Christmas comes, the night of Jesus birth,
When Beth'lem's star shone as the sun, and angels sang on earth.
2. The little child of Bethlehem, He was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav'n above, to help a world in need.
5. And so I love each Christmas Eve, and I love Jesus, too;
And that he loves me ev'ry day, I know so well is true.

PART TWO: GOD'S PROMISE IS FULFILLED.

The sign would be astounding and yet, unmistakable. How many other virgins had given birth in the history of the world? The answer was obvious. Only Mary fulfilled that role. But even more astounding was the name which described her child – Immanuel, which means, GOD with US! Only Jesus fulfilled that role!

A reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 7:14 (K-2)

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

1. Behold, a Branch is growing, of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sang, foreknowing; it springs from Jesse’s race
And bears one little flow’r, in midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.
2. Isaiah had foretold it, in words of promise sure,
And Mary’s arms enfold it, a virgin meek and pure.
Through God’s eternal will, this child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.
3. This flow’r, so small and tender, with fragrance fills the air;
His brightness ends the darkness that kept the earth in fear.
True God and yet true man, He came to save his people
From earth’s dark night of sin.

A reading from Matthew (Grades 5-6)

Matthew 1:18-25

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” – which means, “God with us.”

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



“Bethlehem Night” (Cherub Choir)

Terry D. Taylor

On this night a King is born in a cattle shed.
Swaddling clothes will keep him warm in his manger bed.
What a wonder, what a story, what a joyful sight!
Can this be another ordinary Bethlehem night?

Shepherds, watching flocks by night in the fields nearby,
See an angel in great light! Glory fills the sky.
What a wonder, what a story, what a joyful sight!
Can this be another ordinary Bethlehem night?

Hear the angel share the news, tidings of great joy;
Now a Savior comes to you, in this baby boy.
What a wonder, what a story, what a joyful sight!
Love is come, our God is with us, on this Bethlehem night.
Love is come, our God is with us, on this Bethlehem night.

“Jesus! The Name of Wondrous Love”

Hymn 76

1. (Gr. 3-8)
Jesus! Name of wondrous love, name all other names above,
Unto which must every knee, bow in deep humility.

2. (Women/3-8 Girls)

**Jesus! Name decreed of old, to the maiden mother told –
Kneeling in her lowly cell – by the angel Gabriel.**

3. (Cong.)

**Jesus! Name of priceless worth, to the fallen here on earth
For the promise that it gave, “Jesus shall his people save.”**

4. (Men/Boys 3-8)

**Jesus! Only name that’s giv’n, under all the mighty heav’n
Whereby all, to sin enslaved, burst their fetters and are saved.**

5. (Gr. 3-8/Cong.)

**Jesus! Name of wondrous love, human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we, too, flee, O God, in faith to you.**

PART THREE: THE REDEEMER COMES TO ZION.

God’s perspective above time and space is certainly different from ours. What Luke describes – and what human eyes saw – was the hustle and bustle of tax time. The birth of the Savior was incidental to all but his parents and some shepherds. But the prophet sees something different. This birth was not incidental to God. From his perspective, the Redeemer burst onto the scene.

A Reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 59:19-20 (3-4)

For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the Lord drives along.

“The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,” declares the Lord.



“Silent Night! Holy Night!” (with Calvary alumni)

Hymn 60

Alumni are asked to walk forward with their candles and disperse along the two side aisles during the prelude to “Silent Night.” A faculty member will initiate candle lighting in each aisle and alumni are asked to carefully continue the lighting of candles down the aisle during “Silent Night.” When the song is complete, please blow out your candles as you walk back to your seats. Please place your candles in the box in the narthex at the end of the service.



1. (K-8 and alumni)
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. (K-8 and alumni)
Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht, Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh! Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

(Congregation will stand)
3. (K-8, alumni & Cong.)
**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!**
4. (K-8, alumni, & Cong.)
**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.**

A Reading from Luke (Grades 3-4,K-2)

Luke 2:1-7

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

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

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



“Away in a Manger” (K-8)

Hymn 68

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.

PART FOUR: THE SHEPHERDS REJOICE.

The Jerusalem Isaiah saw was sad for a reason. The once great city lay in ruins. Only a remnant of people understood that this was the Lord's doing on account of Israel's own rebellion against God. How heartfelt was their joy, then, when the Lord returned!

People are sad for a reason. God's perfect world lies in ruins. Only a remnant of people understands, however, that our sins have caused our downfall... and God is just to judge us. How great, then, was the joy of the angels and the excitement of the shepherds at announcing the Good News that a Savior from sin has been born.

A Reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 52:8-9 (5-6)

Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

“See in Yonder Manger Low” (1-8)

Hymn 58

1. (1-8) See in yonder manger low, born for us on earth below,
See – the gentle Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.
Hail the ever blessed morn; hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem, “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”
2. (3-8) Lo, within the stable lies, He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim.
Hail the ever blessed morn; Hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem, “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”
3. (3-8) Sacred Infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss, down to such a world as this.
Hail the ever blessed morn; Hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem, “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”
4. (Cong./3-8) **Teach, oh, teach us, holy Child, by thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble thee, in thy sweet humility.
Hail the ever blessed morn; Hail redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem, “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”**

A Reading from Luke (Grades K-2, 3-4)

Luke 2:8-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, **“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

“Were You There on that Christmas Night” (Junior Choir) Natalie Sleeth

Were you there, were you there on that Christmas night,
When the world was filled with a holy light?
Were you there to behold, when the wonder foretold came to earth?

Did you see, did you see how they hailed Him King,
With the gifts so rare that they chose to bring?
Did you see how they bowed, as they praised Him aloud at His birth?

Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang, at the glory of the sight?
Did you hear how the bells of heaven rang, all through the night?

Did you know, did you know it was God’s own Son,
the salvation of the world begun?
Did you know it was Love that was sent from above to the earth?



“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt”

Hymn 54

1. (1-8) 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. (1-8/Cong.) **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. (Solo) 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. (1-8/Cong.) **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.**

PART FIVE: KINGS COME FROM AFAR.

King Herod was puzzled. Wasn't HE the king of the Jews? Yet, dignitaries had come from distant lands to worship SOMEONE ELSE! Unfortunately, the people of Jerusalem shared his anxiety. But they shouldn't have been surprised. Isaiah had previously seen kings coming to worship the Savior. Tonight we join those ancient wise men in bringing our worship to Jesus, the King.

A Reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 60:1-3 (7-8)

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

A Reading from Matthew (Grades 7-8)

Matthew 2:1-11

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written.”

“ ’But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

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. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 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.



“How Lovely Shines the Morning Star”

Hymn 79 vs. 1-3

1. (Gr. 5-8/Cong.)
**How lovely shines the Morning Star! The nations see and hail afar
The light in Judah shining.
O David’s Son of Jacob’s race, my Bridegroom and my King of grace,
For you my heart is pining.
Lowly, Holy, Great and glorious, O victorious Prince of graces
Filling all the heav’nly places.**

2. (Gr. 5-8/Cong.)
**O highest joy by mortals won, true Son of God and Mary’s Son,
The highborn King of ages!
In your blest body let me be, E’en as the branch is in the tree,
Your life my life supplying.
Sighing, crying, for the savor of your favor resting never
Till I rest in you forever.**

3. (Gr. 5-8/ Cong.)
**O mighty Father, in your Son you loved me ere you had begun
This ancient world’s foundation.
Your Son has made a friend of me, and when in spirit him I see,
I joy in tribulation.
What bliss is this! He is living, to me giving life forever;
Nothing me from him can sever.**

Prayer and Response

Blessing

PART SIX: THE WORLD COMES TO WORSHIP THE CHRIST.

It was never God’s plan to keep the news of the Savior silent. As the plan unfolded God made it clear that the Redeemer was to be a blessing for all nations. Isaiah saw just that in prophetic vision. And tonight, we who live 2000 years after the birth of Jesus and half a world away, fulfill what Isaiah saw as we worship Jesus, the Redeemer who has come to save us.

A Reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 60: 4,5,16 (K-8)

Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy... Then you will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior, your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

“Joy to the World”

Hymn 62

1. (K-8)

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. (3-8/ Cong)

**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.**

3. (5-8/ Cong.)

**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. (5-8/ Cong.)

**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.**



SPECIAL THANKS TO:

“God’s Plan Through the Ages” – written by Dawn Aswege (Introductions by Pastor Koelpin)

- Tania Kopplin..... Organist/Pianist
- Jenna Hering..... Trumpet
- Dr. Larry Gray..... Trumpet
- Ruth Kaiser..... Flute
- Bill Ball..... Guitar
- Jim Henrickson..... Soloist
- John McCarthy.....Audio Visual
- Kevin Volkert.....Audio Visual
- David Goforth.....Audio Visual
- Rick Jackson.....AudioVisual

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AT CALVARY

- December 24 Christmas Eve.....7:00 PM
- December 25 Christmas Day.....9:30 AM
- December 31 New Year’s Eve.....7:00 PM

CANDY BAGS

Children are invited to take a candy bag from the ushers as they leave church (white treat bags are nut-free). Please accept this candy bag as a gift from our congregation. We ask that you do not open the candy bags until you are in your car so that we can keep our facilities clean.

