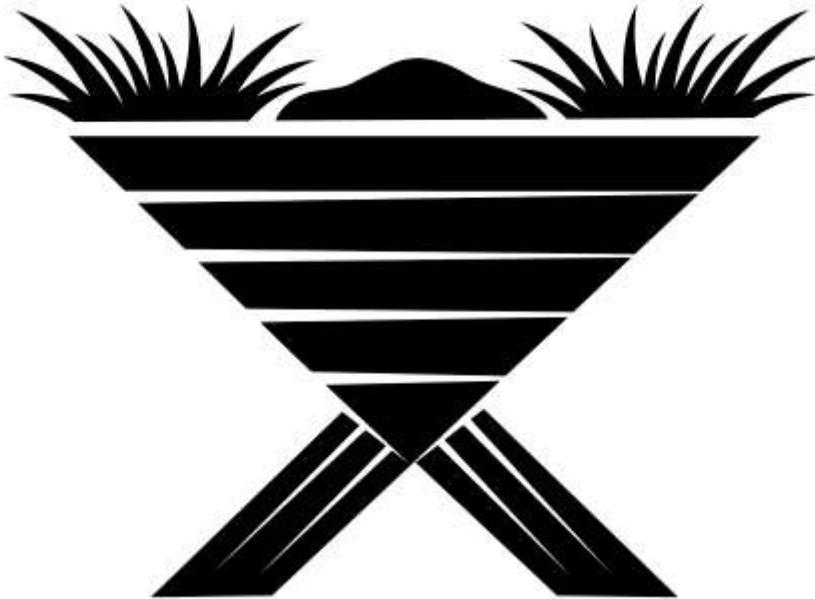


# **The Festival of the Nativity of Our Lord**



**Calvary Lutheran Church  
9807 Church Road + Dallas, TX + 75238  
214-348-5567**

**December 25, 2016 9:30 a.m.**



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,  
 2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes,  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.  
 Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n,



Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels.  
 On - ly be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther.  
 Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est.  
 Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing.



*Refrain*  
 Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Text: John F. Wade, c. 1711–86; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.  
 Tune: ADESTE FIDELES (Irregular) John F. Wade, c. 1711–86, alt.

## GREETING

**M** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

**C** Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M** By right, we should have nothing to sing about. We do not deserve God's love. He created humankind in his perfect image to live with him in peace forever. But Adam and Eve sinned against him, and we have sinned against him no less than they.

**C** **We confess our sins, O Lord.**

**M** We are embarrassed to think of our sins here. Our hearts are filled with love for you, but we confess we have often loved others more than you. Our eyes behold your glory, but we confess we have lusted for what you forbid. Our lips praise you, but we confess we have spoken evil again and again.

**C** **We deplore our sins, O Lord.**

**M** They have only gained us trouble. They have not given us the happiness they promised.

**C** **For the sake of Jesus, forgive us for sinning against you, O Lord.**

**M** Remind us that Christ came into the world to free us from the guilt of sin. Proclaim to us that his life and death cover our sins. Keep us from being attracted to sin. Spare us from being enslaved by sin. Help us make up for the sins we commit against one another.

**C** **Deliver us from sin's power, O Lord.**

**M** Glory to God in the highest! In love that astounds us, the eternal God sent his one and only Son to live among us, to obey as we could not, and to suffer what we deserved. In Christ there is indeed peace on earth. In him God extends his good will to all people. Because of Christ and by his authority, I say to you what God says: In Christ your sins are forgiven!

**C** **Glory to God in the highest! Amen.**



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the



o'er the plains, And the moun - tains in re -  
an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed



ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a  
in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - ri - a  
in ex - cel - sis De - o.

TEXT: *Nouveau recueil de cantiques*, 1855; tr. *The Crown of Jesus*, Part 2, London, 1862. alt.  
TUNE: GLORIA (77 77 with Refrain) *Nouveau recueil de cantiques*, 1855.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.** (*spoken*)

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10

Those who announce the Christmas message of salvation have beautiful feet!

ISAIAH 52:7 How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring good news,  
who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings,  
who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!”

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> Burst into songs of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD will lay bare his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 98 (62 – Joy to the World)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And



earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry  
 all their songs em - ploy, While fields and  
 thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to  
 makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and  
 floods, rocks, hills, and plains Re - peat the  
 make his bless - ings flow Far as the  
 of his right - eous - ness And won - ders



na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And  
 sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -  
 curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far  
 of his love, And won - ders of his love, And



heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 as, far as the curse is found.  
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Tune: ANTIOCH (CM with Repeat) George F. Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.



## SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-9

The son of Mary is he through whom God speaks to us. Not only is he the son of Mary, but he is the Son of God, superior to the angels.

HEBREWS 1:1 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,<sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.<sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.<sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
"You are my Son;  
today I have become your  
Father "?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,  
and he will be my Son"?

<sup>6</sup> And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,  
"Let all God's angels worship him."

<sup>7</sup> In speaking of the angels he says,  
"He makes his angels winds,  
his servants flames of fire."

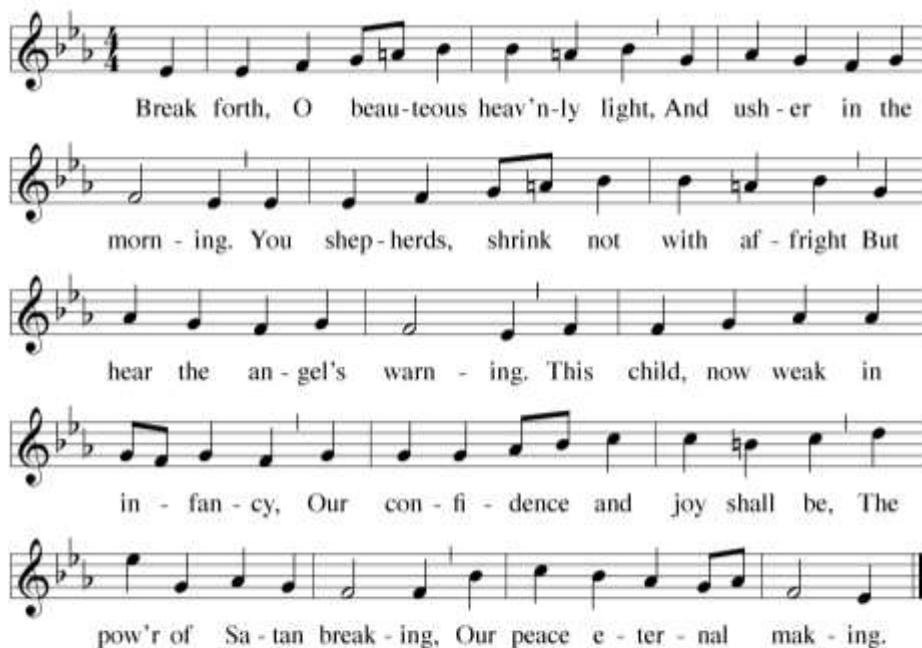
<sup>8</sup> But about the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, will last for ever  
and ever,  
and righteousness will be the scepter  
of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup> You have loved righteousness and hated  
wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has set you  
above your companions  
by anointing you with the oil of  
joy."

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light



Break forth, O beau-teous heav'n-ly light, And ush-er in the  
morn - ing. You shep-herds, shrink not with af - fright But  
hear the an - gel's warn - ing. This child, now weak in  
in - fan - cy, Our con - fi - dence and joy shall be, The  
pow'r of Sa - tan break - ing, Our peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67, abr.; tr. John Troutbeck, 1832–99, alt. From *The Hymnal 1982*, © 1985  
The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Church Publishing Inc., New York, NY.  
Tune: ERMUNTRE DICH (87 87 88 77) Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667, alt.

## GOSPEL

**John 3:16-21**

The greatest Christmas gift!

JOHN 3:16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. <sup>19</sup> This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.”

## HYMN OF THE DAY

35 – Of the Father’s Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten  
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed  
 3 This is he whom heav'n - taught sing - ers  
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him,  
 5 Christ, to you, with God the Fa - ther,



Ere the worlds be - gan to be, He is  
 When the vir - gin, full of grace, By the  
 Sang of old with one ac - cord; Whom the  
 An - gel hosts his prais - es sing, Pow'rs, do -  
 And the Spir - it cease - less - ly Hymn and



Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the  
 Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, Bore the Sav - ior  
 Scrip - tures of the proph - ets Prom - ised in their  
 min - ions bow be - fore him And ex - tol our  
 chant and high thanks - giv - ing And un - end - ing



end - ing he, Of the things that are, that  
 of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -  
 faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -  
 God and King. Let no tongue on earth be  
 prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall  
 deem - er, First re - vealed his sa - cred  
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its  
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert  
 min - ion And e - ter - nal vic - to -



see Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 face Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 Lord Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ring Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ry Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

## **The Reason for the Season Is...?**

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**Whoever wishes to be saved must, above all else, hold to the true Christian faith. Now this is the true Christian faith:**

**We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.**

**He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father,  
and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother,  
fully God, fully man,  
with rational soul and human flesh,  
equal to the Father as to his deity,  
less than the Father as to his humanity;**

**And though he is both God and man,  
Christ is not two persons but one,  
one, not by changing the deity into flesh,  
but by taking the humanity into God;  
one indeed, not by mixture of the natures,  
but by unity in one person;**

**For just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being,  
so God and man are one Christ.**

**He suffered for our salvation,  
descended into hell,  
rose the third day from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty,  
and from there will come to judge the living and the dead.  
At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies.**

**This is the true Christian faith.**

*From the Athanasian Creed*

**FRIENDSHIP REGISTER, OFFERING, and MUSICAL OFFERING**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*stand*

**M** Eternal Father, we give you thanks and praise on this holy day for sending your one and only Son to share our humanity, to carry our guilt, and to become for us the perfect Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

**C** **We adore you, O Lord.**

**M** Remember ministers of the gospel throughout the world who on this day are proclaiming that a Savior has been born. We especially commend to your care the missionaries we, as members of the Wisconsin Synod, have called. Since they cannot enjoy the fellowship of their extended families this Christmas, we pray that you would give them the inner joy that comes with service in your kingdom.

**C** **Protect all those who preach the gospel in our place, O Lord.**

**M** As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who are less fortunate than we are. Give us hearts that truly care for people who need our help. If it is your will, bring your powerful healing to those who are sick or diseased in body or mind. We pray especially for brothers and sisters who are setting aside their celebration today to care for the sick, feed the bedridden, and stand at the side of the dying.

**C** **Sustain those who endure the troubles of life, O Lord.**

**M** Be a source of strength to the members of this congregation. Comfort all who have lost a loved one during the past year, support those who are troubled, and be with those who are spending Christmas alone. If any are among us today who have lost the true meaning of this festival, let them rediscover the joy that comes from Christ alone.

**C** **Let your peace reign in the hearts of all, O Lord.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

**M** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

**M** As you sent your Son to bring peace to all people on earth, so we pray for all people, those known and those unknown to us. Hear us as we join in the prayer your Son taught us:

**C** **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

**M** The Lord be with you

**C** **And also with you.** (*spoken*)

**M** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up to the Lord.** (*spoken*)

**M** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.** (*spoken*)

**M** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Re - joice, re - joice this hap - py morn! A Sav - ior  
un - to us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glo - ry.  
His low - ly birth in Beth - le - hem The an - gels  
from on high pro - claim And sing re - demp - tion's sto - ry.  
My soul, Ex - tol God's great fa - vor; Bless him ev - er For  
sal - va - tion. Give him praise and ad - o - ra - tion.

Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742-1824; tr. Carl Döwing, 1867-1937.

Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (887 887 22 44 48) Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608, alt.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M** The peace of the Lord be with you always

**C** **Amen.** (*spoken*)



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How  
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De -

still we see thee lie! A - bove thy deep And  
scend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin And

dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by.  
en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The

ev - er - last - ing light, The hopes and fears Of  
great glad ti - dings tell; Oh, come to us, A -

all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

37 – Once Again My Heart Rejoices



1 Once a - gain my heart re - joic - es As I hear  
 2 Hear! The con - quer - or has spo - ken: "Now the foe,  
 3 Should we still fear God's dis - pleas - ure, Who, to save,  
 4 God be - comes the vic - tim, tak - ing Man - kind's place  
 5 Soft - ly from his low - ly man - ger Je - sus calls



Far and near Sweet - est an - gel voic - es,  
 Sin and woe, Death and hell are bro - ken!"  
 Free - ly gave His most pre - cious treas - ure?  
 By his grace, Full a - tone - ment mak - ing,  
 One and all, "You are safe from dan - ger.



"Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing Till the air  
 God is man, man to de - liv - er, And the Son  
 To re - deem us he has giv - en His own Son  
 For our life his own he ten - ders, And his grace  
 Chil - dren, from the sins that grieve you You are freed;



Ev - 'ry - where Now with joy is ring - ing.  
 Now is one With our blood for - ev - er.  
 From the throne Of his might in heav - en.  
 All our race Fit for glo - ry ren - ders.  
 All you need I will sure - ly give you."

6 Come, then, banish all your sadness!  
 One and all,  
 Great and small,  
 Come with songs of gladness;  
 We shall live with him forever  
 There on high  
 In that joy  
 Which will vanish never.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76, abr. adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
 Tune: FRÖHLICH SOLL MEIN HERZE SPRINGEN (8.33 6 D) Johann Crüger, 1598-1662.

*Following the Distribution the congregation stands at the invitation of the presiding minister*

1. As angels joyed with one accord  
Upon the advent of our Lord,  
So laud we all and bless the name  
Of him who from the Father came.
2. In every age--let praise abound--  
He comes; we hear his voice resound.  
His glorious gospel does not cease  
To bring us comfort, joy, and peace.
3. He comes to us in bread and wine  
To give himself and gifts divine.  
Oh, praise him for this sacrament,  
Redeeming love's great testament!
4. Lift up your heads! All grief and pain  
Shall vanish when he comes again.  
Where we shall see him face to face,  
There joy alone shall have a place.

## **PRAYER**

**M** O Lord, our heavenly Father, you have proclaimed to us once again the joyful good news of the birth of your Son. We give you thanks and praise for the gift of the world's redemption, for the gift of eternal peace, and for the gift of joy in the Holy Spirit. Preserve these treasures in our hearts and minds until we finally come to share your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.** (*spoken*)

## **BLESSING**

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C:** **Amen.** (*spoken*)

**CHRISTMAS**  
**BLESSINGS**

# HYMN (Choir vs. 1,2; congregation vs. 3,4)

## Joy Has Dawned

Words and Music by Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

© 2004 Thankyou Music/Adm. by worshiptogether.com songs,

excl. UK & Europe, adm. by Kingsway Music. [tym@kingsway.co.uk](mailto:tym@kingsway.co.uk). Used by permission.

1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, pro - mised from cre - a - tion-  
2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels,  
3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;  
4. Son of A - dam, Son of Heav'n, gi - ven as a ran - som;

God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.  
as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.  
Gifts of men from dis - tant lands pro - phe - sy the sto - ry.  
Re - con - cil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham - pion!

Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry;  
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness,  
Gold - a King is born to - day, In - cense - God is with us,  
What a Sa - vior! What a Friend! What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!

But a hum - ble gift of love - Je - sus born of Ma - ry.  
cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.  
Myrrh - His death will make a way and by His blood He'll win us.  
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, Now the Lord of his - t'ry.

