

Christmas Day Worship

The Festival of the Nativity of Our Lord



“Glory in the highest... peace on earth”

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

December 25, 2018 9:30 a.m.

Christmas Day 2018

“Glory in the highest... peace on earth”

OPENING HYMN

34 – Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to
 3 Now through his Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di -
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly



voice; He from whom joy stream - eth Poor
 thee. Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O
 vine. Death o'er us had reign - ed Through
 ground? Where the an - gels sing - ing With



in a man - ger lies; Not so bright - ly
 pure and ho - ly Child; Through thy grace and
 sin and van - i - ty; He for us ob -
 all his saints u - nite, Sweet - est prais - es



beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
 mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
 tain - ed E - ter - nal joy on high.
 bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
 Draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!
 May we praise him there! May we praise him there!
 Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.
 Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO (66 66 66 55) German melody, 14th century, alt.

GREETING

Please stand

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 We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

PRAAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M For the blessed conviction that you are the Son of God, and that you were born in Bethlehem to keep the Law of God perfectly in our place and to give you life into death for our redemption, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M For the determination to proclaim the Gospel of forgiveness to all the world and to administer the Sacraments faithfully according to your institution, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M For your blessing on us as a fellowship of believers united in you, eager to do your will, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M Merciful Lord, open our eyes to behold your glory as the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise:

HYMN OF PRAISE

Sung by the Choir

Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah

by Natalie Sleeth Copyright: The Sacred Music Press 1976

*Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, To all good tidings tell,
Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, He comes, Immanuel!
No mortal He, yet born to be the Lord of all the earth,
Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, Proclaim His holy birth!*

*Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, Our voices let us raise,
Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, in joyful songs of praise!
From Heaven above He came in love, this wondrous babe so small,
Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, to bless us one and all!*

*To bring the world salvation, the Son of God was born;
A gift to every nation, upon that Christmas morn!
Rejoice! Rejoice! And with the angels sing!
Rejoice! Rejoice! And hail Him King!*

*Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, in Bethlehem afar,
Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, shines bright His guiding star!
Its light has spread from manger bed to shine from shore to shore!
Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah, our hope forevermore!*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

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. Amen.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10

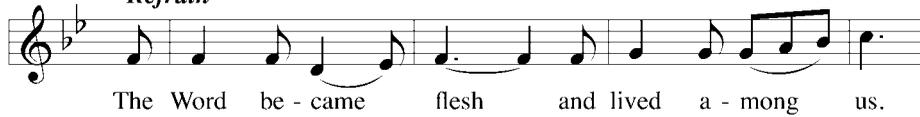
Those who announce the birth of our Savior have beautiful feet!

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!”⁸ 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.⁹ Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.¹⁰ 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

Refrain



Psalm Tone



The LORD has made his sal vation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Refrain

Shout for joy to the LORD, | all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with | music;

make music to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of | singing.

Shout for joy before the | LORD, the King.
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with | equity.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit,
as it was in the be ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-9

Today the “only begotten from eternity” becomes a literal son.

HEBREWS 1:1 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,² 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.³ 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.⁴ So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.⁵ 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”?⁶ And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”⁷ In speaking of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, his servants flames of fire.”⁸ 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.”⁹ 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

Sung by the soloist

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
When the time had fully come, God sent his Son,
Born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Please stand for the Gospel

GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

John’s “theological” account of the first Christmas.

JOHN 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was with God in the beginning.³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of men.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.⁶ There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John.⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.⁹ The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become

children of God--¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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



SERMON

Luke 2:15-20

Don't Just Celebrate Christmas... Participate!

After the sermon, please stand

CONFESSION OF FAITH (from the Athanasian Creed)

C 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.

Please be seated

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER AND OFFERTORY

Please give us a record of your visit. The members of the congregation bring offerings for the support of the gospel ministry. Our guests need not feel obligated to place an offering in the offering plate.

Please stand for prayer

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Family of God, Christ our Savior is born and our salvation has been revealed, in keeping with the promises made so long ago.

C **Oh, come, let us adore him.**

M Lord God, Father of us all, You provided Your Son an earthly mother to bear and provide for Him. You instructed Joseph to take Mary as his wife, and thus to provide for Jesus' physical needs. Thank You for the gift of parents, who serve as "masks" of Your loving care. Bless all parents everywhere with the wisdom, the patience, the love and the good humor they need to train their children in the way they should go. We ask it in the name of the newborn King:

C **Oh, come, let us adore him.**

M Lord of the nations, the psalmist says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord". We are Your people, and You have made us citizens of a nation that is so richly blessed in so many ways. We pray for the leaders of our country; give them wise and discerning hearts. May they make, administer and interpret our laws in keeping with Your will. We ask it in the name of Jesus, who is the King of kings:

C **Oh, come, let us adore him.**

M It is true, dear God, that even after 2,000 years, many people still live as enemies of the truth of the Gospel. We who are here today may not be able to reach huge numbers of people, but we *can* reach out to the ones who live and work around us. Make us willing, Father. King David said, "O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise" (Ps. 51:15); do the same for us today! Bring the lost to faith in Jesus Christ. He is the Savior of the *world*:

C **Oh, come, let us adore him.**

M Lord Jesus, many of Your followers are being brutally persecuted — even killed — because they will not deny their faith. They suffer so much, and their boldness and courage are an incredible testimony that can even lead their persecutors to believe in You and be saved! Watch over them, Lord. Bless them with Your presence even in the darkest times. Give them the strength to endure, and inspire us through their sufferings, so that we are willing to serve You too. Preserve Your Church, O God, until that day when every knee will bow and every tongue confess, “Jesus Christ is Lord:

C **Oh, come, let us adore him.”**

M Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.**



THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE AND SEASONAL SENTENCE

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. When the time had fully come, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

21 - Hosanna to the Coming Lord

- Hosanna to the coming Lord!
Hosanna to the incarnate Word!
To Christ, Creator, Savior, King
Let earth, let heav'n hosanna sing.**
- O Savior, with protecting care
Abide in this your house of prayer,
Where we your parting promise claim,
Assembled in your sacred name.**
- O Advent King, our sins forgive;
Come in our lives and hearts to live,
And let our humble souls become
A temple worthy of your name.**
- Then in the last and dreadful day,
When earth and heav'n shall melt away,
Your flock, redeemed from sinful stain,
Shall swell the sound of praise again.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on 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.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

27 (1,2) - O Jesus, Lamb of God, You Are

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. O Jesus, Lamb of God, you are My comfort and my guiding star; I come, a sinner, trustingly And bring my many sins with me.</p> | <p>2. O Lord, my sin indeed is great; I groan beneath the dreadful weight. Be merciful to me, I pray; Take guilt and punishment away.</p> |
|---|--|

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

38 – From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

Please turn the page for the Distribution Hymn



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your
 4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
 5 "These are the signs which you shall mark: The swad-dling



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad ti - dings of great joy
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of low -
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will him - self your Sav -
 God for all be - low, That in his king - dom, bright
 clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the in -



I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 and fair, You may with us his glo - ry share,
 fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6 How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds let us go To see what God for us has done In sending us his own dear Son. | 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what in the manger lies. Who is this child, so young and fair? It is the Christchild lying there. |
| 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest! You came to share my misery That you might share your joy with me. | 9 Ah, Lord, though you created all, How weak you are, so poor and small, That you should choose to lay your head Where lowly cattle lately fed! |
| 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair And set with gold and jewels rare, It would be far too poor and small A cradle for the Lord of all. | 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff You have but hay and straw so rough On which as King, so rich and great, To be enthroned in royal state. |
| 12 And so it pleases you to see This simple truth revealed to me: That all the world's wealth, honor, might Are weak and worthless in your sight. | 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled Within my heart, made clean and new, A quiet chamber kept for you. |
| 14 My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep. I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradle song: | 15 Glory to God in highest heaven, Who unto us his Son has given! While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth. |

THANKSGIVING

Please stand

CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING

64 (1,3) - Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

1. Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,
His own Son has given.
3. We are rich, for he was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder.

PRAYER

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



CLOSING HYMN

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: ANTOCH (CM with Repeat) George F. Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

POSTLUDE