

CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL WORSHIP

December 25, 2023
9:30 a.m.

Worship Focus
Sing with the Angels, "Gloria in Excelsis"



Calvary Lutheran Church
9807 Church Road
Dallas, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567
www.calvarydallas.org



Order of Service for NATIVITY OF OUR LORD – CHRISTMAS DAY

Order of Service

Service Folder

✘ Gathering ✘

OPENING HYMN

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -



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



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

Stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)

2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy when our hearts are
worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
to an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer, Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! comes to save us from de - spair.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

The choir will sing verse 2.



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - - -



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Be seated

✠ The Word ✠

FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

Bethlehem was a little town. Yet, it will be known throughout history as the birthplace of the God-man.

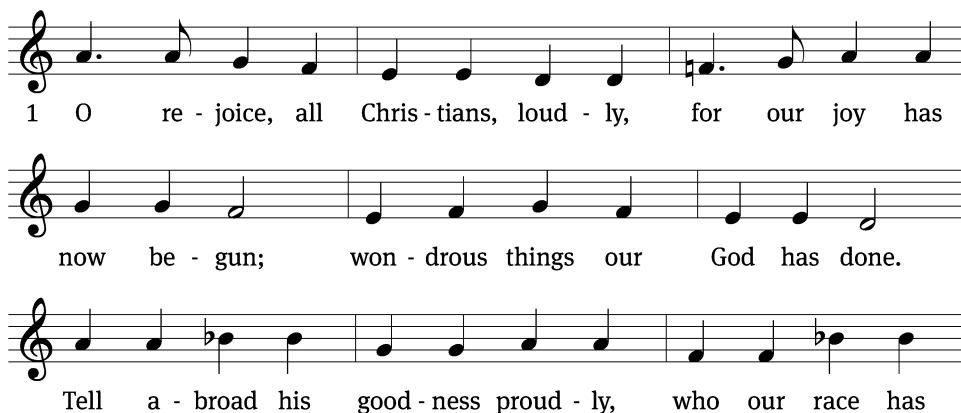
MICAH 5:2⁴“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”
³Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.
⁴He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.
⁵And he will be our peace...

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 98



1 O re - jice, all Chris - tians, loud - ly, for our joy has
now be - gun; won - drous things our God has done.
Tell a - broad his good - ness proud - ly, who our race has

hon - ored thus, that he has be - friend - ed us.

Refrain

Joy, O joy, be - yond all glad - ness! Christ has done a -

way with sad - ness! Hence, all sor - row and re - pin - ing,

for the Sun of grace is shin - ing!

SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

The Son of God was born of a woman so that he might redeem us and make us heirs of the heavenly Father.

GALATIANS 4:4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

⁵ Je - sus! On - ly name that’s giv’n un - der all the might - y heav’n

where - by those to sin en - slaved burst their fet - ters and are saved.

GOSPEL READING

John 1:1-18

The mystery of the incarnation—God became man; the Word became flesh.

¹JOHN 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!



Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers and sa - ges sang of old with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him, an - gel hosts his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing, pow'rs, do - min - ions bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he,
 bore the Sav - ior of our race,
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word.
 and ex - tol our God and King.
 and un - end - ing prais - es be,



of the things that are, that have been,
 and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er,
 Now he shines, the long - ex - pect - ed;
 Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,
 hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion



and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 first re - vealed his sa - cred face ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 let cre - a - tion praise its Lord ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

✠ The Sermon ✠

Luke 2:14

Angels Sing the Meaning of Christmas

THE CREED

“Christ” Section of The Athanasian Creed

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and MUSICAL OFFERING

*We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of
God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.
Offerings can be given in any of these ways:
Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary
On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>
Scan the QR code to the right...*



*Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card,
or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection
Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website,
<https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the QR code above.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

You may remain seated for prayer

Beloved Immanuel, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Most High and Son of the virgin, we give you thanks for your compassion. You came to us from the Father's throne and took on yourself our flesh and blood that we might share your own divine nature. Lord, you are great and worthy of praise.

Let all creation sing for joy!

Now has the heavenly Father shared his loving heart with us. Boundless joy is ours, and in you God's anger is stilled forever. By your holy birth, we are born again for heaven, and you have become the true gateway to heaven for us. By you we have access to the Father and open entrance into your kingdom. Lord, you are great and worthy of praise. **Let all creation sing for joy!**

Dear Lord, gracious Immanuel, help us rightly know the depth of your holy love. Help us remember your tender mercy to us, your poverty and distress, that we may always rejoice in your gracious birth, confident of your mighty power. Lord, you are great and worthy of praise. **Let all creation sing for joy!**

Lift up our hearts. Open our lips. Loosen our tongues that with all the angels we may worship, praise, and magnify you, and finally sing your praise in the everlasting joys of heaven. Lord, you are great and worthy of praise. **Let all creation sing for joy!**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel. Blessed be his holy name. All the earth is full of his glory. Alleluia!
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is good and right so to do.

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:

RESPONSE



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come_ ye to Beth - le - hem!
Je - sus, to thee_ be all glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

WORD OF INSTITUTION

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

RESPONSE



3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;



where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav'n - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness!



peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, hail th' in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th' an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

Refrain

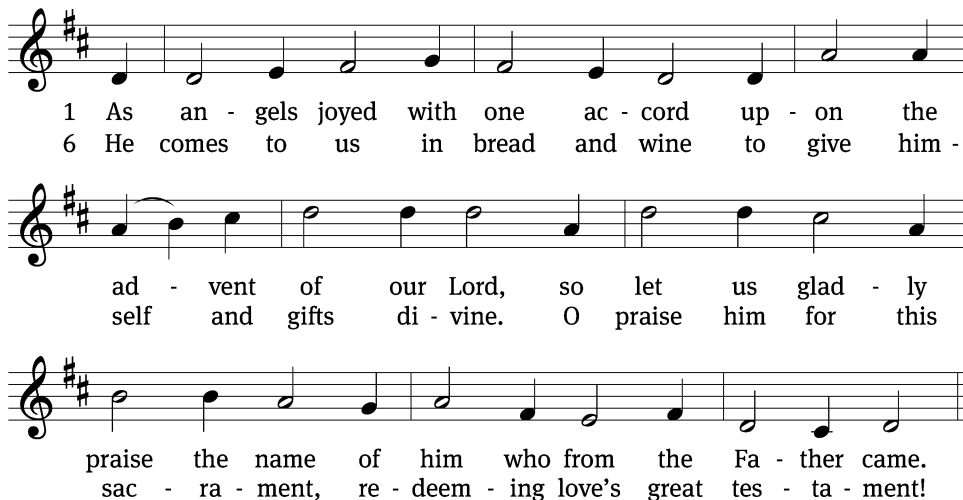


Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"



THANKSGIVING

Stand



1 As an - gels joyed with one ac - cord up - on the
6 He comes to us in bread and wine to give him -
ad - vent of our Lord, so let us glad - ly
self and gifts di - vine. O praise him for this
praise the name of him who from the Fa - ther came.
sac - ra - ment, re - deem - ing love's great tes - ta - ment!

PRAISE AND PRAYER

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

And his mercy endures forever.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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 your peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice



1 Let us all with glad-some voice praise the God of heav - en,
2 To this vale of tears he comes, here to serve in sad - ness,
3 We are rich, for he was poor; is not this a won - der?
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, bless us and be near us.



who, to bid our hearts re - jice, his own Son has giv - en.
that with him in heav'n's fair homes we may reign in glad-ness.
There-fore praise God ev - er - more here on earth and yon - der.
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

Be seated

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Hymn 353 – Joy to the World

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.; setting: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872
Scripture references: Ps 98; Ge 3:17-19; Rev 22:1-5; Jn 1:17
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 346 – Angels We Have Heard on High

Text: French; tr. The Crown of Jesus, Part 2, 1862, alt.
Tune: French; setting: Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958
Scripture references: Lk 2:7-20
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 366 – O Rejoice, All Christians, Loudly

Text: Christian Keimann, 1607-1662; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Tune: Andreas Hammerschmidt, 1611-1675, alt.; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
Scripture references: Lk 2:7-14; 2 Co 8:9; Isa 35:10; Lk 1:78,79
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 358 – Of the Father's Love Begotten

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-c. 413, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, sts. 1-4, alt.;
Tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, st. 5, alt.
Tune: plainsong, 13th cent.
Scripture references: Ac 13:32,33; Heb 1:1-9; Ps 2:7; Lk 1:26-38; Ps 148; Php 2:9-11
Text and tune: public domain

Hymn 354 – O Come, All Ye Faithful

Text: John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, alt.
Tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786, alt.; setting: The Hymnal 1940, alt.
Scripture references: Lk 2:15
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 333 – O Little Town of Bethlehem

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893, abr., alt.
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908; setting: Service Book and Hymnal, 1958, alt.
Scripture references: Mic 5:2; Lk 2:1-7
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 350 – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; setting: William H. Cummings, 1831-1915
Scripture references: Lk 2:13,14; Ro 5:10,11; Col 2:9; Jn 11:25,26
Text and music: public domain

Hymn 320 – As Angels Joyed with One Accord

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905-1996, abr., alt.
Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621; setting: George R. Woodward, 1848-1934
Scripture references: Lk 2:13,14; Php 2:7,8; Ac 10:36; Tit 3:5-7; 1 Co 11:23-25
Text: ©1993 Werner H. Franzmann, admin. Northwestern Publishing House
Music: public domain

Hymn 332 – Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

Text: German, 17th cent.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Tune: Ander Theil Des Dreszdenischen GesangBuchs, Dresden, 1632, alt.;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Scripture references: 2 Co 8:9; Lk 2:20
Text and music: public domain

Prayer of the Day

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Response is modified from Psalm 96:4, 12

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