



What
child
is
this??

*Calvary Lutheran School
Children's Christmas Service
December 16th, 2016*

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.*

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

Hymn: “Once in Royal David’s City”

CW 50

1. *(Students)* Once in royal David’s city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed;
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Congregation:

2. **He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy.**
3. **But our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child, so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heav’n above,
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.**
4. **Not in that poor, lowly stable
With the oxen standing by
Shall we see him, but in heaven,
Set at God’s right hand on high.
Then like stars his children crowned,
All in white, his praise will sound.**

Invocation

Pastor's Message

Narration – Vicar Strucely

Hymn: “What Child is This”

CW67

1. (1-8)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!
2. (1-8)Why lies he in such mean estate
Where oxen now are feeding?
Good Christians, fear; For sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through;
The cross he'll bear for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the Son of Mary!

Congregation:

3. **So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings Salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the Son of Mary!**



Recitation (*PreK-K*)

Words: H. W. Gockel

1. In a little stable
Far across the sea
Was a little Baby
Just like you and me.

3. Shepherds stood around Him,
Angels watched with care,
For this Babe was Jesus,
Lying, smiling there.

2. No a bed or cradle,
Not a pillow deep,
But a lowly manger
Was His place to sleep.

4. Oh, I love this Jesus,
Who was little then.
For He surely loves me,
Little though I am.

Song: “Just Like Me”

*1997 Kremer Publications, Inc., Milwaukee, WI 53210
Words and music by Paul Wilde, Arrangement by Charles Cushinery
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Refrain:

Just like me, tiny face
Needing love and mom’s embrace.
Jesus came into the world just like me.
Just like me, with small toes,
Tiny eyes, ears and nose,
Jesus came into the world, just like me.

My King was born a baby
He came from heav’n above.
He left His throne for a crown of thorns;
A miracle of love. (refrain)

I love my King, my Savior,
Through faith, I plainly see.
He came like me to make me like Him,
And live eternally! (refrain)

Prayer

Hymn: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

CW 66

1. (1-8)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.
2. (5-8)For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, The angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning starts together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing To God the King
And peace to all the earth.
3. (1-4)How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts To human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will
Receive him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

4. *(Congregation)* O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin And enter in;
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, Abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!



Part 1: WHERE DID IT BEGIN?

God asked, “What is this you have done?” Genesis 3:13

Narration – Vicar Strucely

Recitation (*Grade 7-8*)

Close your eyes and picture a mother walking into a child’s bedroom only to find that her three year old daughter has just given herself a haircut. The floor is covered with dark locks of hair, and her head is covered with bare spots. Would you blame the mother for exclaiming, “What is this you have done?” Those few words sum up her anger, frustration, and disappointment in the child.

Now picture the Almighty God looking you in the eye and asking you, “What is this you have done?” No doubt those words would cause your knees to shake. Hearing God voice his anger, frustration, and disappointment in you sounds frightening. Yet those are the exact words he spoke to Eve after she had eaten of the forbidden fruit. God gave Adam and Eve everything they could ever wish for in their new home.

Genesis 1:31, “*God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.*”

But they were also given a will to do as they pleased. They could remain in perfect harmony with their Father, or they could pursue other paths. Sadly, they chose to follow Satan.

Genesis 3:6 “*When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.*”

And God asked the question, “**What is this you have done?**”

The sin was committed. The perfect life was over. The perfect gifts God had given would now become tainted with sin. Life would be difficult, and death would surely follow.

But God’s love wasn’t spoiled. God promised Adam and Eve that he would come to their rescue.

Genesis 3:15 “*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.*”

Do you know who would crush Satan’s head? It was Jesus. He would come to the rescue. He would take on himself the anger and punishment of God’s wrath. So we ask the question again, where did it all begin?

Grades 7-8: *Where did Christmas get its start?
Deep within God’s loving heart.
Man had sinned and lost it all,
But Christ would save us from the fall.*

Hymn: “O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is”

CW 40

1. (1-8) O Jesus Christ, Your manger is
My paradise where my soul is reclining.
For there, O Lord, We find the Word
Made flesh for us – your grace is brightly shining.
2. (3-8) He whom the sea And wind obey
Comes down to serve the sinner in great meekness.
Now God’s own Son With us is one
And joins us and our children in our weakness.
3. (3-8) Dear Christian friend, On him depend;
Be of good cheer and let no sorrow move you.
For God’s own child In mercy mild
Joins you to him – how greatly God must love you!

(Congregation)

4. **Ponder again What glory then
The Lord will give you for your earthly sadness.
The angel host Can never boast
Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.**

(1-8 and Congregation)

5. **The world may hold Her wealth and gold;
But you, my heart, keep Christ as your true treasure.
To him hold fast Until at last
A crown is yours and honor in full measure.**



Part 2: HOW DID THE NEWS SPREAD?

Isaiah asked, “Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” Isaiah 53:1

Narration – Vicar Strucely

Recitation (*Grades 1-6*)

Isaiah 53:1 “Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

Spoken Recitation: “The Questions”

(*Grades 1-2*): How can it be that the prophets of old
Could possibly claim all the things that they said?
How could these writers have ever foretold
The birthday of Jesus, his life and his death?

How can it be that a maiden so pure
Was chosen to mother this most Holy One?
Since Gabriel told her that she could be sure
Jehovah was Father, Messiah was Son?

Congregation: How can it be? Please won't you tell?

(*Grades 3-4*): How can it be that some shepherds one night
While resting quite calmly with sheep bedded down
Saw thousands of angels in raiment so bright
Proclaiming the Good News o'er Bethlehem town?

How can it be that our God had such love
To come down from heaven for someone like me?
So one day I'd join him in heaven above
To spend not a lifetime, but eternity?

***Congregation:* How can it be? Please won't you tell?**

(Grades 5-6): I'll tell you clearly just how it can be:

God's love has no boundaries, beginning or end,
In Bethlehem's manger for you and for me
There laid our Redeemer, our Savior, our Friend.

How then was the news foretold?
Through the promises of old.
From age to age the word had spread
What God's great messengers had said.

Hymn: "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"

CW 34

(Grades 1-8)

1. Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!
2. Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to thee.
Cheer my wearied spirt, O pure and holy Child;
Through your grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto thee! Draw me unto thee!
3. Now through his Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death o'er us had reigned Through sin and vanity;
He for us obtained Eternal joy on high.
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!

(Grades 1-8 and Congregation)

4. **Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all his saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there?**

Part 3: WHEN DID THE MIRACLE HAPPEN?

Mary asked, “How will this be since I am a virgin?” Luke 1:34

Narration – Vicar Strucely

Recitation (*Grades 5-6*)

Galatians 4:4-5 “When the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.”

It began in Nazareth, a tiny village in northern Palestine, where a simple woman named Mary was engaged to a young man named Joseph. One day, as she was carrying out her daily chores, God’s messenger angel Gabriel came to her and told her:

Luke 1:31-32 “You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.”

But Mary was startled and confused. So she asked the angel this question:

Luke 1:34 “How will this be” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

Luke 1:35 “The angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.’”

And Gabriel continued to tell her that God the Father and God the Holy Spirit would work miracles in her because with God nothing is impossible. What a wonderful beginning to the miracle of Christmas. Jesus was to be both the Son of Man, and the very Son of God.

Hymn: “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

CW 24

1. (1-8)The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail,” said he to meek and lowly Mary,
“Most highly favored maiden.” Gloria!
2. (1-8) “I come from heav’n to tell the Lord’s decree:
A blessed virgin mother you shall be.
Your Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored maiden.” Gloria!
3. (1-8)Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
“To me be as it pleases God,” she said.
“My soul shall praise and magnify his holy name.”
Most highly favored maiden. Gloria!
4. (1-8)Of her Immanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,
“Most highly favored maiden.” Gloria!



Recitation:

(3-4)How did God get Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem? What happened the night Jesus was born? God’s plan came to earth when Jesus was placed in the womb of Mary. From that point on, Jesus lived his life as a man. He felt pain, needed to eat and rest, shed tears, and became tired. His heart ached as he experienced every part of our lives. And it all began in the manger in Bethlehem on that Christmas night so long ago. That’s where we can find the King of all people. This is how it happened.

Luke 2:1-12

(3-4) 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.

(K-2) 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.

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.

Hymn: "Away in a Manger"

CW 68

(Grades K- 2)

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.

(Grades K-8)

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.

Recitation - Luke 2: 13-20:

(K-2) Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

(K-8) “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

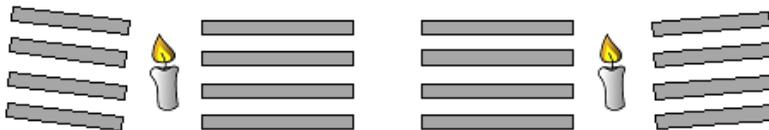
(K-2)When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

Hymn: “Silent Night! Holy Night!” *(with Calvary alumni)*

CW60

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.

FRONT



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 please rise to sing:

3. *(K-8, alumni & Congregation)*

**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, & Congregation)*

**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.**

(3-4) 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.

*(Grades 1-2): When did God's great plan unfold?
With the words that Gabriel told.
Thus began God's saving story
That would show God's awesome glory.*



(Cherub Choir)

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.
3. He lives again in heaven's realm, The Son of God today;
And still he loves his little ones And hears them when they pray.
4. I, too, shall sing my Savior's praise, My joy, my crown, my Lord;
For he has made me his own child By water and the word.
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 4: WHY DID JESUS COME AT CHRISTMAS TIME?

**Jesus asked, "Did not the Christ have to suffer these things
and then enter his glory?" Luke 24:26**

Narration – Vicar Strucely

Recitation:

Why do you worry about clothes? (Matthew 6:28)

Why are you so afraid? (Matthew 8:26)

Do you believe that I am able to do this? (Matthew 9:28)

Why did you doubt? (Matthew 14:31)

How many loaves do you have? (Matthew 15:34)

Who touched my clothes? (Mark 5:30)

Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? (Mark 14:37)

Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house? (Luke 2:49)

Why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for? (John 20:15)

(7-8) Perhaps the gravest question our Savior ever asked was on Good Friday when he looked up from his cross to heaven and cried out loud:

(5-6) Matthew 27:46 *“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”*

(7-8) Those words summed up Jesus life and death. His own Father had forsaken him so he could bear our sins and accept all the punishment that was ours. How can we ever thank him? And that’s why Jesus asked this question of the travelers on the road to Emmaus: Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?

*(Grades 5-6): You ask why all this came to be
In Bethlehem’s nativity?
God sent his holy, sinless Son
That he might rescue everyone.*

Anthem: “Sing with Joy, Glad Voices Lift”

Junior Choir

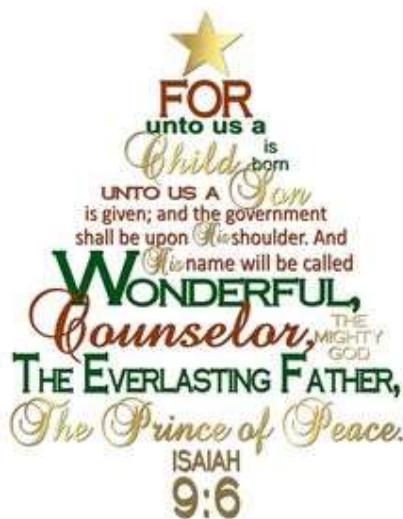
Johann Geletzsky, King’s Gesangbuch 1543, Setting S. Drummond Wolff

Sing with joy, glad voices lift, Honor God, the highest Gift,
Who such wondrous deeds performs, Who sent His own beloved Son to save us,
Everlasting life through Him He gave us. Truly, truly!
God was born of lowly maid, Out of His great love the Father willed it.
On this day did He appear, Christ Jesus dear, Immanuel,
Brings to us salvation, Saves from death and hell.

See how angels in the sky God in heaven glorify.
Sing as they the glad refrain Of peace on earth, good will to all and blessing.
Exultation in the song expressing, Truly, truly!
So bless we the Christ Child then, Join their chorus, sing again in gladness.
Glory be to God on high, On earth be peace, to all good will.
Joy and wonder evermore each heart may fill.

(Congregation)

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all you nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
2. 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!
Please as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
3. Hail, the heav'nly 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 us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"



Part 5: WHAT DO WE DO WITH JESUS?

**Pilate asked, “What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called Christ?”
Matthew 27:22**

Narration – Vicar Strucely

Recitations:

(7-8) Acts 16:31 “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved - you and your household.”

(5-6) Ephesians 6:24 “Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.”

(1-2) John 10:27 “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.”

(3-4) Matthew 28:19,20 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

(5-8) What will we do with Jesus?

(K-8) We will believe him, love him, listen to him, follow him, and tell others about him.

*(Grades K-8): What shall we do, then, with this Babe
Who lies on yonder manger hay?
We love him, share him, and adore,
Both here on earth and evermore!*

Anthem: “Joy Has Dawned”

(Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend)

1. *(1-8) Joy has dawned upon our world, promised from creation-
God’s salvation now unfurled, hope for ev’ry nation.
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory;
But a humble gift of love – Jesus born of Mary.*

2. (I-8) Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels,
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a mother's breast, vuln'erable and helpless.
3. (I-8) Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory;
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.
Gold – a King is born today, Incense – God is with us,
Myrrh – His death will make a way and by His blood He'll win us.
4. (I-8) Son of Adam, Son of Heav'n, given as a ransom;
Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion!
What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious myst'ry!
Once a babe in Bethlehem, Now the Lord of hist'ry.

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Hymn: "Joy to the World"

CW 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.

(Grades 3-8 and Congregation)

2. **Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While field and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

(Grades 5-8 and Congregation)

3. **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 if sound, far as, far as the curse is found.**

4. **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:

Dawn Aswege..... Director
Tania Kopplin..... Organist/Pianist
Beth Weed..... Piano
Gary Hengst..... Guitar
David Ramsey Guitar
Bill Ball..... Guitar
Vicar David Strucely*..... Narrator
John McCarthyAudio Visual

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AT CALVARY

December 24 Christmas Eve Festival of Lessons and Carols.....7:00 PM
December 24 Christmas Eve Compline Service.....11:00 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.

***David Strucely** is a third year seminarian doing his internship (vicarship) at Redeemer Lutheran in Edna, Texas. He is studying at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wisconsin. David is originally from Dallas, having attended Calvary Lutheran School from Pre-K through Grade 8.