



Worship  
Sunday  
December 26, 2021



Southeastern Iowa Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

PRELUDE

*Carol of the Bells*

Handbell Choir, Faith Lutheran Church Eldridge

*Jesus of What a Wonderful Child – ELW 297*

Larry Peterson, Dave Critchlow, Katie Twedt, Larry Ewing, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Urbandale

## GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Rev. Dan Kuckuck, Southeastern Iowa Synod

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who sends the word with angels,  
who is made flesh among all peoples,  
and who breathes peace on all the earth. **Amen.**

In Christ, we are bold  
to name our sin and cry out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess our sin before you.**

**We replace compassion with competition.**

**We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.**

**We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.**

**We have not put on love in harmony with you.**

**Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.**

**Swaddle our hearts with your peace,**

**that all we do, in word or deed,**

**may reflect your love born among us. Amen.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us

in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

† In Christ your sins are forgiven

and you are clothed in peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

*Oh Come All Ye Faithful – ELW 283*

Ensemble Singers, Chris Nelson, Organist, St. Paul Lutheran Davenport

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of 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, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*  
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Amy, Tom, Dayne, and Peyton Van Dyke, Southeastern Iowa Synod

### MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

*Come Emmanuel*

Adult Choir, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Ankeny

### SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-17

Amber Jackson-Elwer, Southeastern Iowa Synod

### GOSPEL ACCLIMATION

*Angels We Have Heard on High – ELW 289*

Neal Becker, euphonium, Sue Becker, piano,  
Faith Lutheran Church, Eldridge

# Angels We Have Heard on High

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 tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed 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: French carol: tr. H. F. Herry, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
 Music: GLORIA, French carol: arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

GOSPEL

Luke 2:41-50

SERMON

Bishop Amy Current

HYMN OF THE DAY *Joy To The World – ELW 267*

Larry Peterson, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Urbandale

### 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 all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row 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 righ - teous -

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

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

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.

heav'n and na - ture sing.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
 Music: AN'THOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

**NICENE CREED**

Val Harlynn, Southeastern Iowa Synod

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was  
crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Tracy Sabus, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Urbandale

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Charlotte Uthe, Seeds of Faith Lutheran Church, Lisbon

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

You come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe. Unite us with those who celebrate your birth even when they are weighed down by grief, loss, poverty, hunger, or injustice.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe. Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of creation, that we live in service to you and the natural world.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You come to us through relationships of many kinds: families, friendships, communities, and nations. Guide us in these relationships, that we recognize the Christ child in one another and show your love to those most vulnerable.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You come to us through people whom the world forgets. Poor shepherds and an imprisoned Paul announced your good news. Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell, or in any need this day (*especially*).

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You come to us in acts of justice and forgiveness. Open our hearts to forgive one another, without permitting injustice. Supply us with the wisdom to be clothed with love, binding all things together in perfect harmony.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You come to us through those who have died yet live with you forever (*especially*). We give thanks for Stephen, deacon and martyr, who gave his life to tell the story of your love.

Merciful God,



**receive our prayer.**

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Deacon Jodi Schuman, Southeastern Iowa Synod

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.

For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that we may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.  
**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*Go Tell It on the Mountain – ELW 290*

Praise Band, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Urbandale

## Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;  
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



*Refrain*  
be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

## PEACE AND DISMISSAL

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior!

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella*

Chris Nelson, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport

**Worship Leaders:**

Bishop Amy Current  
Rev. Dan Kuckuck  
Deacon Jodi Schuman  
Amber Jackson-Elwer  
Amy Van Dyke  
Tracy Sabus  
Val Harlynn  
Charlotte Uthe

**Music provided by:**

Faith Lutheran Church, Eldridge  
Neal Becker  
Sue Becker  
Linda Szemkus  
Diane Cole  
Beth Ann Anderson  
Linda Golinghorst  
Lucas Golinghorst  
Rev. Carrie Lewis La Plante

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Urbandale  
Larry Peterson  
Dave Critchlow  
Katie Twedt  
Larry Ewing  
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport  
Chris Nelson  
Ensemble Singers

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Ankeny  
Adult Choir

Thank you worship musicians, leaders, sound, and A/V technicians.

Merry Christmas!  
From Bishop Current and the Office of the Bishop staff  
Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA

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First Sunday of Christmas, ELW Service of the Word, [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).  
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