



**Grace Lutheran Church
WORSHIP SERVICE**

**December 14, 2022
Candlelight Worship**

Candlelight Worship Service





ENTRANCE

**TLH 104, st. 1, 6-7:
Now Praise We Christ,
The Holy One**

Welcome & Invocation

Pastor:

*In the name of the Father,
And of the Son,
And of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Responsory

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

C: The Light no darkness can overcome.

P: We see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels,

C: for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor,

P: that He, by the grace of God,

C: might taste death for everyone.

Responsory

P: For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory,

C: to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”

Prayer

P: Let us pray ...

Lord, tune our hearts this evening by the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may hear Your Word, marvel at Your love, and rejoice in song at the prophecies and fulfillment of our Savior's birth. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ **FOCUS:**

 - Angels We Have Heard on High**

- ✓ **Sanctuary will get darker**

- ✓ **Special candle instructions**

HYMN

**TLH 77, st. 1-3,6,13:
All My Heart This Night
Rejoices**

TLH 77, st. 1-3,6,13

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

1. All my heart this night rejoices

As I hear Far and near

Sweetest angel voices.

“Christ is born,” their choirs are singing

Till the air Everywhere

Now with joy is ringing.

TLH 77, st. 1-3,6,13

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

**2. Forth today the Conqueror goeth,
Who the foe, Sin and woe,
Death and hell, o'erthroweth.
God is man, man to deliver;
His dear Son Now is one
With our blood forever.**

TLH 77, st. 1-3,6,13

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

**3. Shall we still dread God's displeasure,
Who, to save, Freely gave
His most cherished Treasure?
To redeem us, He hath given
His own Son From the throne
Of His might in heaven.**

TLH 77, st. 1-3,6,13

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

**6. He becomes the Lamb that taketh
Sin away And for aye
Full atonement maketh.
For our life His own He tenders
And our race, By His grace,
Meet for glory renders.**

TLH 77, st. 1-3,6,13

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

**13. Guilt no longer can distress me;
Son of God, Thou my load
Bearest to release me.
Stain in me Thou findest never;
I am clean, All my sin
Is removed forever.**



Confession and Absolution

P: Let us tonight join with the prodigal son, and go to our heavenly Father, and confess to Him,

C: “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” (Luke 15:18-19)

P: It is true, as the Apostle Paul also writes in Galatians chapter four –

C: Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world.

Confession and Absolution

P: But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.

C: He has redeemed us who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons! (Galatians 4:3-5)

P: So we stand before God, justified and forgiven!

C: Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ! (Romans 5:1)

CHOIR

Advent



1st Lesson

Genesis 3:8-19

*The Seed of the woman shall
bruise the serpent's head.*

1st Lesson:

(Genesis 3:8-15, 22-24) And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. (9) Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Where *are* you?” (10) So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.” (11) And He said, “Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?” (12) Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.”

1st Lesson:

(13) And the LORD God said to the woman, “What *is* this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” (14) So the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. (15) And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.” ...

1st Lesson:

(22) Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"; (23) therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. (24) So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

HYMN

TLH 62:

**Oh, Come, Oh, Come,
Emmanuel**

TLH 62, st. 1-3

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

[Women Only]

**1. Oh, come, Oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.**

[ALL]

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

TLH 62, st. 1-3

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

[Men Only]

**2. Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.**

[ALL]

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

TLH 62, st. 1-3

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

[ALL]

**3. Oh, come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

2nd Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

The Angel of the LORD promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.

2nd Lesson:

(Genesis 22:15-18) Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, (16) and said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only *son*; (17) “blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. (18) “In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”



HYMN

TLH 95:

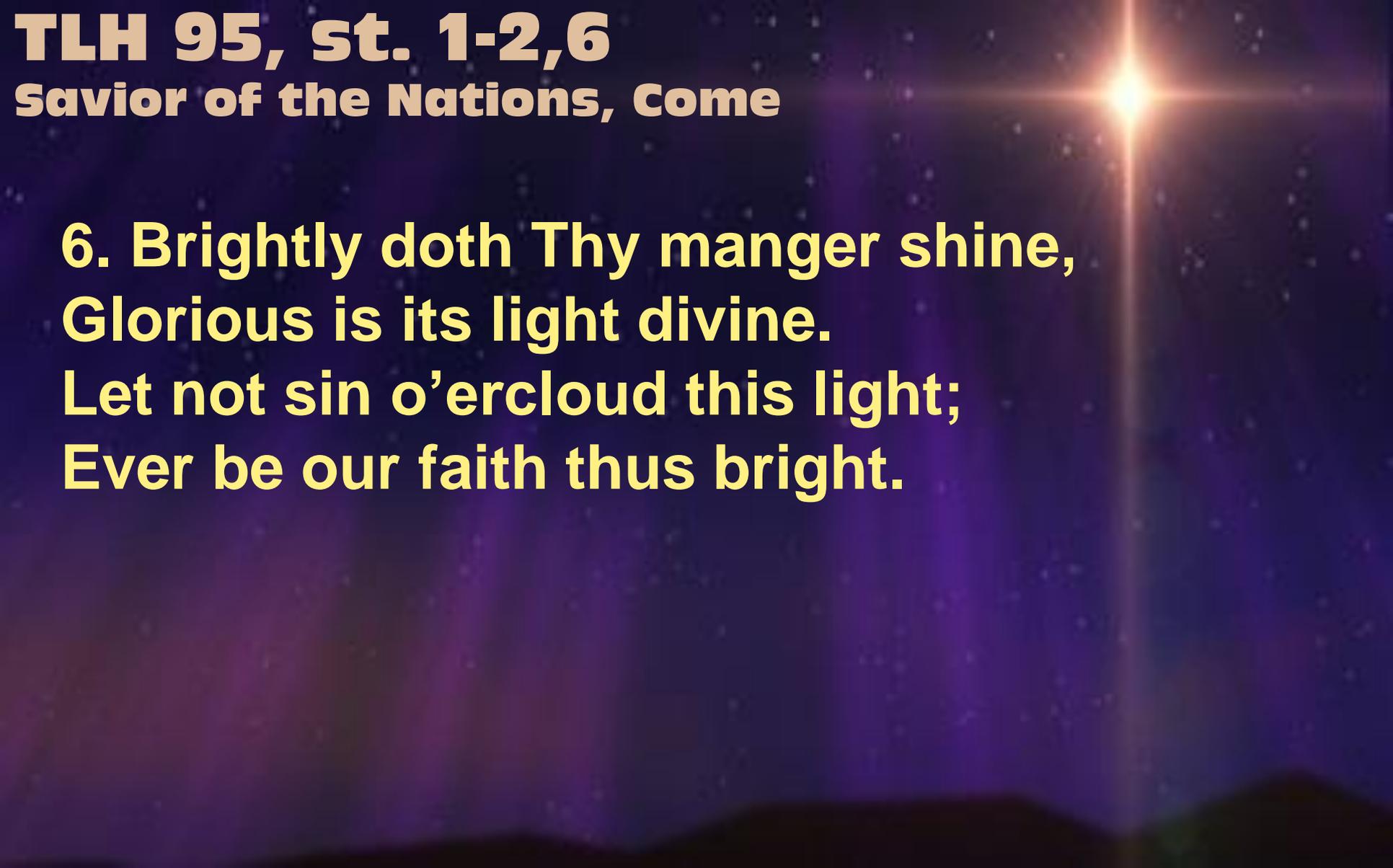
**Savior of the Nations,
Come**

TLH 95, st. 1-2,6

Savior of the Nations, Come

**1. [Men] Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Thy home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.**

**2. [Women] Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh--
Woman's Offspring, pure and fresh.**



TLH 95, st. 1-2,6
Savior of the Nations, Come

**6. Brightly doth Thy manger shine,
Glorious is its light divine.
Let not sin o'ercloud this light;
Ever be our faith thus bright.**

3rd Lesson

Zechariah 3:3-9

The Angel of the LORD tells of how the filth of our sin is taken away through the promised Branch of Righteousness, the Savior.

3rd Lesson:

(Zechariah 3:3-9) Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel. (4) Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, "Take away the filthy garments from him." And to him He said, "See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes." (5) And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the LORD stood by. (6) Then the Angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying, (7) "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'If you

3rd Lesson:

will walk in My ways, And if you will keep My command, Then you shall also judge My house, And likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here. (8)

'Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, You and your companions who sit before you, For they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH. (9) For behold, the stone That I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' Says the LORD of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.'



HYMN

**TLH 645, st. 1-2, 5:
Behold, A Branch Is
Growing**

TLH 645, st. 1-2,5

Behold, A Branch Is Growing

**1. Behold a branch is growing
Of of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing;
It springs from Jesse's race
And bears one little Flow'r
In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.**

TLH 645, st. 1-2,5

Behold, A Branch Is Growing

**2. Isaiah hath foretold It
In words of promise sure,
And Mary's arms enfold It,
A virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will
This Child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.**

TLH 645, st. 1-2,5

Behold, A Branch Is Growing

**5. O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of Glory.
Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray.
To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.**

4th Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

The angel appears to Mary.

4th Lesson:

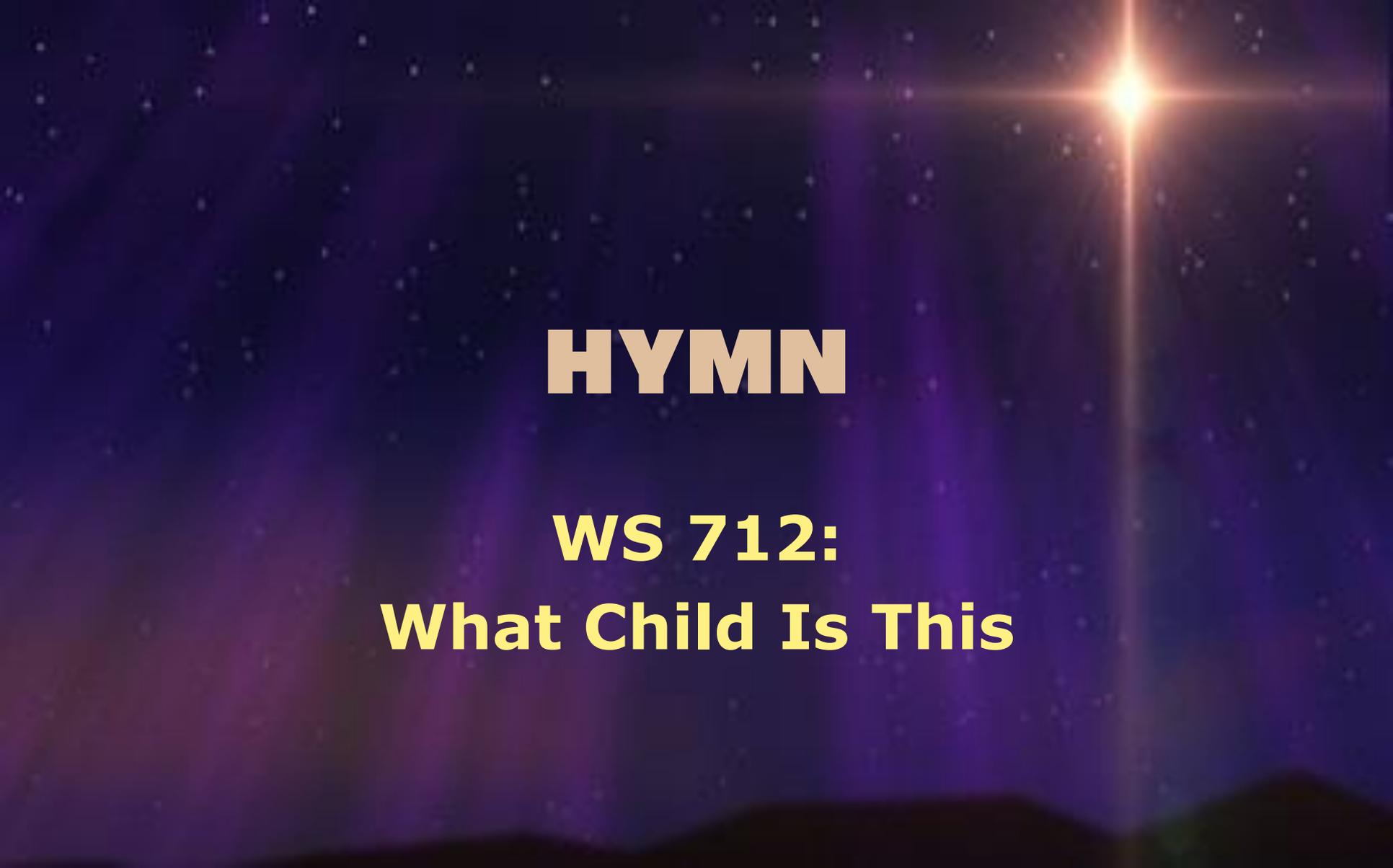
(Luke 1:26-38) Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, (27) to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. (28) And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!" (29) But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. (30) Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. (31) "And behold, you will conceive

4th Lesson:

in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. (32) "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. (33) "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." (34) Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" (35) And the angel answered and said to her, "*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.* (36) "Now indeed,

4th Lesson:

Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. (37) "For with God nothing will be impossible." (38) Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.



HYMN

**WS 712:
What Child Is This**

WS 712, st. 1-2

What Child Is This

1. [Men]

**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?**

[Women]

**This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

WS 712, st. 1-2

What Child Is This

2. [ALL]

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!

5th Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*Christ, the Light of the world, will
come*

5th Lesson:

(Isaiah 9:2,6-7) The people who walked in darkness
Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land
of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has
shined. ... (6) For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a
Son is given; And the government will be upon His
shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful,
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of
Peace. (7) Of the increase of *His* government and
peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of
David and over His kingdom, To order it and
establish it with judgment and justice From that time
forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts
will perform this.

HYMN

**TLH 106, st. 1,5,6:
The People that in
Darkness Sat**

TLH 106, st. 1,5,6

The People that in Darkness Sat

**1. The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been.
In shades of death have been.**

TLH 106, st. 1,5,6

The People that in Darkness Sat

**5. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored.
The God by all adored.**

TLH 106, st. 1,5,6

The People that in Darkness Sat

**6. His righteous government and power
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end.
His reign shall have no end.**

6th Lesson

Malachi 3:1

*The Angel of the LORD Appears
as the Messenger of the Covenant*

6th Lesson:

(Malachi 3:1) “Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” Says the LORD of hosts.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES





- ★ **The pastor will light the Christ candle**
- ★ **The congregation may then come forward to light a candle from the Christ candle**
- ★ **Your candle will be presented to you.**
- ★ **Light your candle by tipping it to another lighted candle**
- ★ **PLEASE do not tip a lighted candle.**
- ★ **PLEASE, only children ages 5 and older hold their own candles.**









7th Lesson

Luke 2:1-11 (Silent Night)

The long-expected Savior is born.

Note: After singing the first stanza of Silent Night, please sing “oo” for two stanzas during the reading. Afterward the congregation may then again join in singing stanza 3

Silent Night (Acapella)

**1. 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.**



Silent Night (Acapella)

Luke 2:1-11

NOTE: TWO STANZAS OF “OO”

(1) And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (2) (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) (3) And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. (4) And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) (5) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. (6) And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.



Silent Night (Acapella)

Luke 2:1-11

NOTE: TWO STANZAS OF “OO”

(7) And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. (8) And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. (9) And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. (10) And the angel said unto them, “Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. (11) “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.



Silent Night (Acapella)

**3. 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.**





HYMN

**LSB 364 / LSB 365:
Away in a Manger**

LSB 364 / LSB 365

Away in a Manger

**1. Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus
Laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky
Looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
Asleep on the hay.**

LSB 364 / LSB 365

Away in a Manger

**2. The cattle are lowing,
The Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
No crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,
Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle
Till morning is nigh.**

LSB 364 / LSB 365

Away in a Manger

**3. Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever,
And love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
In Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven
To live with Thee there.**

8th Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-9

*Jesus, while made a little lower
than the angels, is greater!*

8th Lesson:

(Hebrews 1:1-9) God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, (2) has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; (3) who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (4) having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

8th Lesson:

(5) For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son"? (6) But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him." (7) And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire." (8) But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. (9) You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."

CHILDREN

**As Angels Joyed
with One Accord**



9th Lesson

Revelation 7:9-17

*We will one day join all the angels
to praise our Savior!*

9th Lesson:

(Revelation 1:9-17) After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, (10) and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (11) All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, (12) saying: "Amen!

9th Lesson:

Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be to our God forever and ever. Amen.*" (13) Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" (14) And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (15) "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the

9th Lesson:

throne will dwell among them. (16) "They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; (17) "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Special Offering



OFFERING HYMN

**TLH 127, st. 1, 4-5:
As with Gladness
Men of Old**

TLH 127, st. 1, 4-5

As with Gladness Men of Old

**1. As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led by Thee!**

TLH 127, st. 1, 4-5
As with Gladness Men of Old

**4. Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past.
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.**

TLH 127, st. 1, 4-5

As with Gladness Men of Old

**5. In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down.
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King!**

A night sky with a bright star in the upper right corner, casting a lens flare. The sky is dark blue and purple, with many small stars. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains.

PRAYER

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Benediction

**P: The LORD bless you and keep you;
The LORD make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you;
The LORD lift up His countenance upon
you, and give you peace.**

C (♪): Amen. Amen. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

**LSB 368:
Angels We Have
Heard on High**

LSB 368

Angels We Have Heard on High

- 1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

LSB 368

Angels We Have Heard on High

- 2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

LSB 368

Angels We Have Heard on High

- 3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

A night sky with a bright star in the upper right corner, casting a vertical lens flare. The sky is dark blue and purple, with many small stars. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains.

SILENT PRAYER

A night sky with a bright star in the upper right corner, casting a lens flare. The sky is dark blue and purple, with many small stars. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

