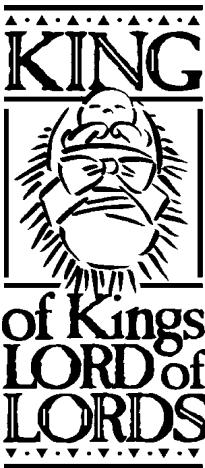


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**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
DECEMBER 16, 2009**

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The King is Coming Soon!

Opening Welcome & Prayer:

Hymn: TLH 68: *The Advent of Our King*

1. The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.
2. The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.
3. O Zion's Daughter, rise
To meet thy lowly King,
Nor let thy faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

Opening Response:

- P:** Arise, sons of the Kingdom!
C: The King is drawing nigh;
P: Arise, and hail with gladness
C: The Ruler from on high.
P: Ye Christians, hasten forth!
C: Your praise and homage bring Him
P: And glad hosannas sing Him;
C: Naught else your love is worth.

1. _____

1st Reading..... 2 Samuel 7:8,12-16

The Lord promises that a King will come from David's lineage and will rule His kingdom forever.

Hymn:..... TLH 59: *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.
5. Kings shall bow down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all peoples sing;
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend,
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

2nd Reading..... Psalm 2:1-8

Although despised, the Lord's anointed King will overcome.

Choir:..... Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

3rd Reading..... Micah 5:2-5a

Out of little Bethlehem will come the long-anticipated King.

Hymn:..... TLH 103: *To Shepherds as They Watched*

2. At Bethlehem, in David's town,
As Micah did of old make known;
'Tis Jesus Christ, your Lord and King,
Who doth to all salvation bring.
3. Oh, then rejoice that through His Son
God is with sinners now at one;
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,
Your brother is the eternal God.
4. What harm can sin and death then do?
The true God now abides with you.
Let hell and Satan rage and chafe,
Christ is your Brother--ye are safe.

2. _____

4th Reading..... Isaiah 9:2,6-7

A Child will be born as King to establish spiritual peace.

Hymn:..... TLH 106: *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. ... {repeat}
5. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor.
The God by all adored. ... {repeat}
6. His righteous government and power
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end. ... {repeat}

5th Reading..... Luke 1:26-33

The King's arrival is announced to His mother.

Hymn:..... TLH 645: *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.
5. O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
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.

6th Reading..... Psalm 24:8-10

The gates of our hearts are to prepare for our King's arrival.

CDS Children:..... Light the Candle

The Lighting of the Candles..... Organ Interlude

Note: You may light your candle by tipping it to another lighted candle, but please do not tip a lighted candle. We ask that only children ages 5 and older hold their own candles.

3. _____

7th Reading.....Luke 2:1-11

The King long-expected 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:

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.

NOTE: TWO STANZAS OF "oo"

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.

Little Children:.....In a Little Stable

Devotion:.....Luke 20:41-44

A Hero Is Coming
Christ, Our King Compared with David

S.S. Children:.....Go Tell It On the Mountain

8th Reading.....Matthew 2:1-2,7-11

The Magi from the east offer gifts befitting for the King.

Hymn:.....TLH 136:Angels from the Realms of Glory

1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship, Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

9th Reading.....Hebrews 1:1-9

The King inherits the glory that He deserves.

Hymn:.....TLH 91:Let the Earth Now Praise

1. Let the earth now praise the Lord.
Who hath truly kept His word
And the sinners' Help and Friend
Now at last to us doth send.
5. King of Glory, enter in;
Cleanse it from the filth of sin,
As Thou hast so often done;
It belongs to Thee alone.
9. And when Thou dost come again
As a glorious King to reign,
I with joy may see Thy face,
Freely ransomed by Thy grace.

Our Gifts for the King

Closing Prayers:

Benediction:

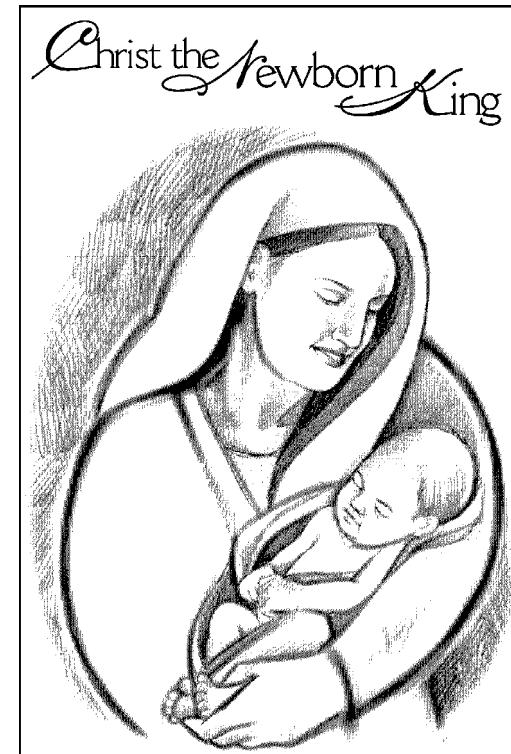
Hymn:.....TLH 87:Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing. ... {repeat}
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy. ... {repeat}
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. ... {repeat}
4. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love. ... {repeat}

Silent Prayer:

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

C H U R C H O F T H E L U T H E R A N C O N F E S S I O N



*The King
Is Coming Soon*

