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Pastor: John Hein (763-784-8784)  
Church Year: Candlelight Service

Organist: Janelle Hein  
Date: Dec. 21, 2011

## † THE ORDER OF WORSHIP †

### Opening Hymn: WS 710

*Note: A soloist will sing stanza 1.*

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.



### Call to Worship: Luke 2:10-11

P: Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

C: Praise be to God! Amen.

### Welcome:

### Hymn: WS 706

**Refrain:** Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. (**Refrain**)
2. The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo, above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior's birth. (**Refrain**)
3. Down in a lonely manger  
The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn. (**Refrain**)



### First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5, 14-19

*God creates the light and the darkness on the first day of creation. He also creates the sun, moon, and stars on the fourth day.*

### Hymn: WS 711, st. 1-2

1. See in yonder manger low,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the gentle Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years. (**Refrain**)

**Refrain:** Hail the ever blessed morn; Hail redemption's happy dawn;  
Singing through all Jerusalem, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

2. Lo, within a stable lies  
He who built the starry skies,  
He, who throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim. (**Refrain**)

### Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18

*God promises to Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*

### Hymn: TLH 77, st. 1-3

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 Ev'rywhere Now with joy is ringing.
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.

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.

### Third Lesson: Numbers 24:15-19

*The Star out of Jacob is promised.*

### CDS Children: Star Carol

### Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

### Hymn: TLH 106, st. 1, 4-6

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 line**)
4. To us a Child of hope is born,  
To us a Son is given,  
And on His shoulder ever rests  
All power in earth and heaven. (**Repeat line**)
5. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,  
The Everlasting Lord,  
The Wonderful, the Counselor.  
The God by all adored. (**Repeat line**)
6. His righteous government and power  
Shall over all extend;  
On judgment and on justice based,  
His reign shall have no end. (**Repeat line**)

### Fifth Lesson: Malachi 3:13-4:2

*The Sun of Righteousness is promised.*

### Choir: Advent

### The Lighting of the Candles:

*Note: The pastor will light the Christ candle (the white candle in the middle of the Advent wreath). Once the Christ candle is lit, the congregation is invited to come forward and light a candle from the Christ candle. You may light your candle by tipping it to another lighted candle, but please do not tip a lighted candle. We ask that children be age 5 or older to hold their own candles.*

### Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:1-11

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*



**Hymn: TLH 646**

Note: After singing the first stanza of Silent Night, please sing "oo" for two stanzas during the reading. Afterward you 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.

**Seventh Lesson: Luke 2:15-20**

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

**Children: Away in a Manger**

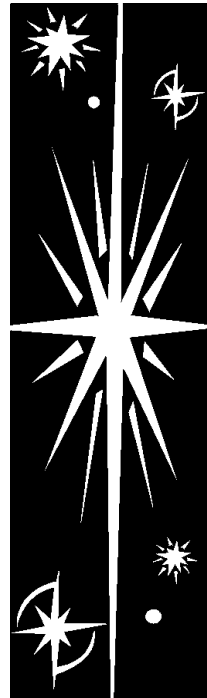
**Eighth Lesson: Luke 1:76-79**

*The Dayspring from on High has visited us!*

**Sermonette: "The Dayspring from on High is Born!"**

**Hymn: TLH 359 (Tune of TLH 127)**

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Thou, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
Triumph o'er the shades of night.  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Day-star, in my heart appear.
2. Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return  
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,  
Till they inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
3. Visit, then, this soul of mine,  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, Radiancy Divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief.  
More and more Thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.



**Ninth Lesson: Revelation 22:13-21**

*Jesus as the Morning Star calls us to faithfulness.*

**Hymn: TLH 90 st. 4-6, 8**

4. Christ, from heaven to us descending  
And in love our race befriending,  
In our need His help extending,  
Saved us from the wily Foe.
5. Jacob's Star in all its splendor  
Beams with comfort sweet and tender,  
Forcing Satan to surrender,  
Breaking all the powers of hell.
6. From the bondage that oppressed us,  
From sin's fetters that possessed us,  
From the grief that sore distressed us,  
We, the captives, now are free.
8. Gracious Child, we pray Thee, hear us,  
From Thy lowly manger cheer us,  
Gently lead us and be near us  
Till we join th' angelic choir.



**Offering of Thankfulness:**

**Closing Prayer & Lord's Prayer:**

**Benediction (Choir):**

**Closing Hymn: TLH 87**

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 line)
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 line)
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 line)
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 line)

**Silent Prayer:**



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**GRACE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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☆ STARS OF PROMISE ☆