Introductory Music (before the Service begins)

Ave Maria - Melanny Soebagyo

WELCOME

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (9:2-7)

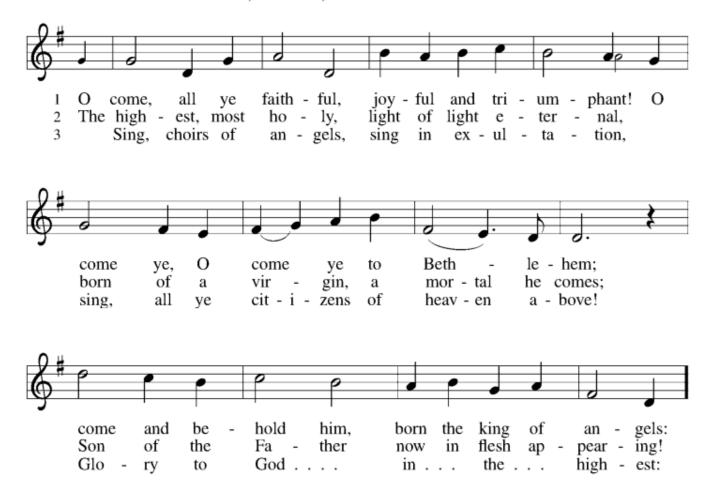
During this reading the Christ candle, symbolizing Jesus as the Light of the World, is lit. Even though it is just one candle, its singular flame reminds us that the Light of Christ disperses the gloom and darkness of our lives and in this world.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Lighting of Advent Wreath

The Small Family

O, Come, All Ye Faithful







Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

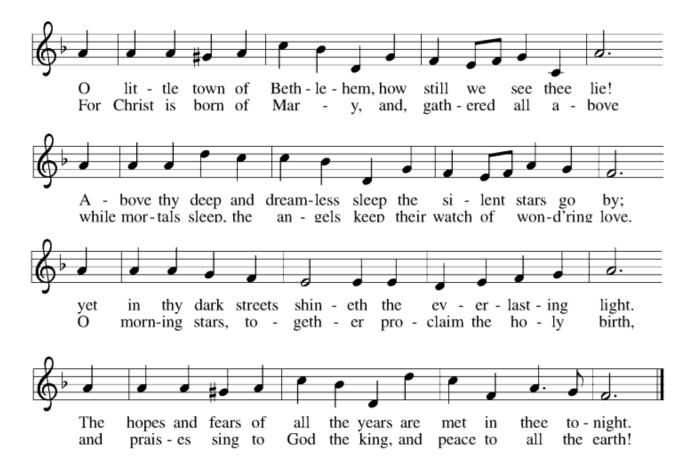
Amen

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

O Little Town of Bethlehem



Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:8-14

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



"Glo - ry

to

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Hark! The her - ald

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

an-gels sing,

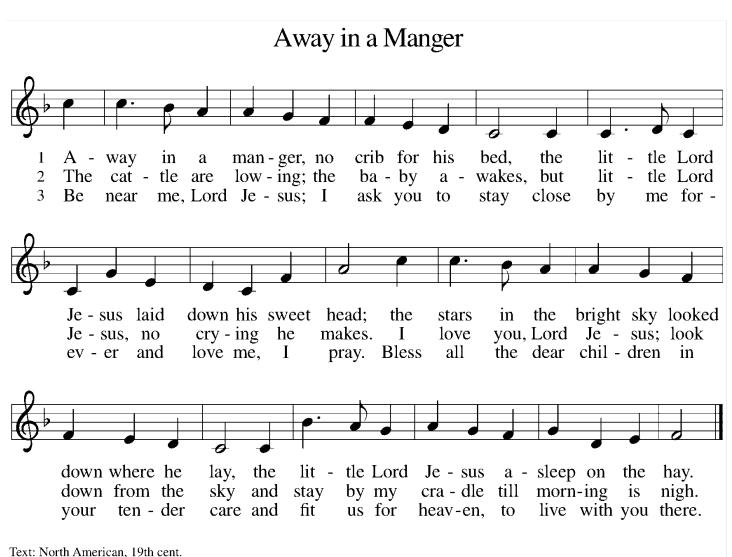
the new-born king!"

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:15-20

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Carol ELW 277



Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

Text: North American, 19th cent.

Sermon

Carol ELW 267

Joy to the World



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

The Offering

"O How Good It Is"

Dot Kasik

Offertory Prayer

LD: Let us pray.

Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

The Celebration of Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, delight and joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

C: Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory and Your grace.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who
Comes in the name of the Lord God most high.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

P: Now as our Lord has taught us, we are bold to pray.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

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, now and forever. Amen.

Carol "O Holy Night" Noah Crawford

Communion Blessing

- P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
- C: Amen

Celebration of Light (Candle-lighting ceremony)

- P: The Grace of God has come to us and touches our lives.
- C: Jesus our Savior is born!
- P: Praise the Lord with heart filled joy!
- C: We praise the Lord, for the Word has come to dwell with us.
- P: The light of Christ shines across the ages even into our world and our hearts this night.
- C: God loves us.
- P: Jesus is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.
- C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Silent Night, Holy Night! Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!



Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

Benediction

- P: Let the light of Christ shine through our lives and bring mercy, peace, and love wherever we go.
- C: Amen.

Dismissal

- LD: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

As you depart, go renewed in God's promise in Christ for you. Be safe in your travels!

May this Christmas season offer you peace!