

Christmas Day Worship

Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

December 25, 2009 - Pastor Mark Voss



Invocation

He was light *coming into a world of darkness.*
He was love *coming into a world of hate.*
He was life *coming into a world of death.*
He was peace *coming into a world of strife.*
He was righteousness *coming into a world of sin.*
He was hope *coming into a world of defeat.*
He was God *coming into a world of humanity.*
He is our Savior *and we begin in his name.*

Christmas Carol

“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt”

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**Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
But there is room and welcome there for me.**

**In that unlikely place I find him as they said:
Sweet newborn babe, how frail! and in a manger bed,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.**

**How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
His prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.**

**Can I, will I forget how Love was born, and burned
Its way into my heart unasked, unforced, unearned,
To die, to live, and not alone for me,
To die, to live, and not alone for me?**

Confession of Sins

P: Jesus, our Immanuel, you dwell with us, but how can we abide your dwelling?

C: For we are sinful people, unworthy of your presence, unready for your coming, undeserving of your mercy.

P: We are guilty by thought, word, and action, and deserve only death and misery.

C: Confessing our sin and our unworthiness, we ask your mercy and forgiveness, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.

P: God has forgiven your sin for Jesus' sake. Jesus has redeemed you from death and sin. An eternity in God's presence is yours. Peace be with you. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

The Christmas Gospel

Part One – Luke 2:1-7

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 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. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 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.

Christmas Carol – CW56

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

Part Two – Luke 2:8-20

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 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. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, 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 Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

Christmas Creed (spoken by all)

I believe in God the Father, Creator of all things, who sent his Son as my Savior.

I believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, announced by angels, worshiped by the Wise Men, who lived to suffer, die, and rise again, to free me from sin, death and the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in Christ. By his continuous work in my heart I rejoice in my salvation, show forth his praises, and will one day live and reign with him in all eternity. Amen.

Musical Selection – Keri Friesenegger

“One Tiny Child”

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*Christmas
Meditation and Carols
“Why the Angels Sang”*

Isaiah 9: 6-7

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.



Carol – CW36

I. Because the Christ Child is Wonderful!

“A Great and Mighty Wonder”

Carol – CW90

II. Because the Christ Child is Our Counselor!

“The People That in Darkness Sat”

Carol – CW 42

III. Because the Christ Child is The Mighty God!

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”

Carol – CW 341

IV. Because the Christ Child is The Everlasting Father!

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Carol - 61

V. Because the Christ Child is the Prince of Peace!

“Hark the Heard Angels Sing”

Offering

Christmas Prayer

Benediction

P: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

C: Alleluia!

P: To us a child is born,

C: to us a son is given.

P: Sing to the Lord a new song,

C: for he has done marvelous things.

P: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Go forth in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



Closing Carol

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

CW 63 vv 1 & 3 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**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.**

**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.**

