

Esperanza Lutheran Church

December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve Service

4:00 pm



Peace

Welcome

Merry Christmas! **Merry Christmas!**

Greeting

The grace of Jesus, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the day

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.**

Reading Luke 1:26-38

Hymn **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ the ever lasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Reading Luke 2:1-5

Hymn **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Reading Luke 2:6-14

Hymn **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing:
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

Reading Luke 2:15-20

Hymn

Away In a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down is sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing: the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Children's Sermon

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** *Please share a sign of Christ's peace.*

Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offering Carol

Love Has Come

Love has come a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises;
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

While the hymn is sung, children are invited to bring their Christmas drawings forward. Deacon Connie & Pastor Sarah will tape their drawings to the altar, lectern, and Advent wreath.

Offertory Prayer

God of abundance, **receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by 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

Distribution of Holy Communion

We receive Holy Communion by intinction, meaning you are invited to dip the bread in the non-alcoholic wine. After you have received Holy Communion, please proceed to make a circle around the altar, with children standing nearer the altar in front of their parents. All are welcome to grab a battery-operated candle from the basket on their way there.

Table Blessing

May the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace. **Amen.**

Candle Lighting Carol

Silent Night

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, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent Night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Blessing

May the Christ child lead us in ways of love and non-violence, justice and peace this Christmas and always.
Amen.

All are invited to return to their seats and, on the way, grab a musical instrument, while the introduction to Go Tell It On The Mountain is played.

Sending Carol

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. **Refrain**

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain**

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! **We will!**

Poinsettia Dedication



In Memory of

Frank & Margie Forbes

Given by: Mueller Family

Florence Mellow

Given by: Mueller Family

Jack & Laura Hendrickson, Joanne Napier

Given by: Sally & Birger Reinertsen

Sally Huntley

Given by: Kurt, Shirley & Sara Huntley

Mark Dirrigl

Love: Tamie and Jamie

Deb Mueller

Given by: Tyler, Grace, Jessica & Ryan

Rusty Drowne, Scott Drowne

Given by: Laura Drowne

Parents & Grandparents

Given by: The Brown Family

My parents Ruth & Clyde Werntz and grandmother Ida Henkels

Given by: Joan Stern

Donald Wagner

Given by: Wagner Family

Sabrina Michaelson

Given by: The Michaelson Family

Sid P Bacon

Given by: Cathy Bacon

Selmer & Patricia Kittelson

Given by: Cathy Bacon

Marj & Milo Stainbrook, Rita & Fred Hurst

Given by: Molly & Larry Hurst

Robert Stern

Given by: Joan Stern

Ronald Blank, Howard & Martha Klein

Given by; Denzil & Becky Klein

Hap Canning, Frank & Joe

Given by: Farrell Canning

In honor of

Our Children, granddaughter Rylee & friends

Given by: Gary & Susan Brown

In Celebration of

Our family & our many blessings

Given by: Joni & Steven Thorpe

Our family, parents, children and grand children

Given by: Dave & Julie Agard

Our Lord's birth

Given by: Jack & Sandy Corrigan

Family & Friends

Given by: Scott Grams

Family

Given by: Doris & Dick Dorwart

Drowne Family

Given by: Laura Drowne



esperanza

www.MYESPERANZA.ORG

Esperanza Lutheran Church, ELCA
2601 E. Thunderhill Place
Phoenix, Arizona 85048
480-759-1515 office
480-759-1436 fax

WWW.Myesperanza.org

Pastor Sarah Stadler | Pastor.Saraha@myesperanza.org
Deacon Connie Rose-Kamprath | *Children's Ministry Coordinator*, Deacon.Connie@myesperanza.org
Lynn Hockenberger | *Pre School Director*, Childrenofhope@myesperanza.org
Joni Thorpe | *Parish Administrator*, esperanza@myesperanza.org
Kazin Cole | *Choir Director*, Kazin.Cole@myesperanza.org
Ma Lai Gates | *Accompanist*