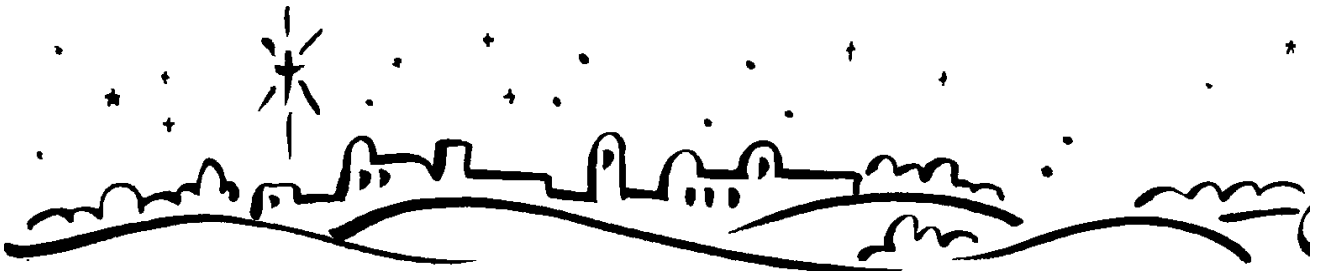


Esperanza Lutheran Church

December 24, 2022

Service of Lessons and Carols

7:00 pm



Peace

Welcome

Welcome

Merry Christmas! **Merry Christmas!**

Please stand as you are able.

Gathering Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O, come ye, O, come ye to Bethlehem;
come and adore him, born the king of angels:
O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:
O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him,
O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

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.**

Please be seated.

First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose E'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
it came a flow'r so bright,
amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love a right,
she bore to us a savior, when half-spent was the night.

Second Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

Carol

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.

O Holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Third Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

Carol

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
"All hail to thee, I lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady." Gloria.

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleas-eth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria.

Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:1-5

Carol

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve

I am so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and angels sang on earth.

I am so glad each Christmas Eve! His praises then I sing;
he opens now for ev'ry child the palace of the king.

And so I love each Christmas Eve, and I love Jesus too;
and that he loves me ev'ry day I know so well is true.

Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:6-14

Carol

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**

Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:15-20

Carol

What Child is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

Sermon

Pastor Sarah Stadler

Special Music

Name of Piece TBD

Promesa De Esperanza

Prayers of the People

Gracious God, you come from heaven above into the midst of our world.

Fill our hearts with the joy of the angels at your birth.

You come from heaven above to the lowliest of human conditions.

Send us to all those in need, those who are sick, hungry, and grieving, to be your hands and feet.

You come from heaven above to walk the way of the cross.

Guide us to follow your path of forgiveness, grace, and peace.

You come from heaven above to become flesh and live among us.

May we see your glory, full of grace and truth. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Carol

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Carol and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory evermore and evermore.

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. Those who prefer an individual cup of non-alcoholic wine are welcome to take it from the silver tray located adjacent to each communion assistant serving the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. All are welcome at this table!

Carol

The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a bright star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave a great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem in took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

Then entered in those wide men three, full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *Refrain*

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*

Table Blessing

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

Distribution of the Light & Reading of John 1:1-14

Please share the light by tipping unlit candles to receive the light from (upright) lit candles.

Candlelighting 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,
Heaven'ly host 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.

Please extinguish your candle and stand as you are able.

Blessing

May we be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
and the everlasting peace of Jesus now and forever. **Amen.**

All are invited to grab a musical instrument and play while we sing Joy To The World. Children and children at heart are welcome to recess with Pastor Sarah while playing.

Sending Carol

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is Come! Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground;

he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove.
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is born! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

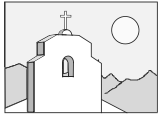
Poinsettia Dedication



In Memory of

In honor of

In Celebration of



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