



Proclaim Jesus Christ, Live in Christ, Serve!

PRELUDE

Gesu Bambino
Jan Gilbertson, organ

Pietro A. Yon

WELCOME & INVITATIONS

OPENING HYMN Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW #275



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry; now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon-der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

INVOCATION

Leader: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

CHRISTMAS LITANY

Leader: The celebration of Christ's birth continues!

All: **The Word has become flesh - thanks be to God!**

Leader: John testifies to the One who stands among us.

All: **We behold the Lamb of God.**

Leader: Jesus takes away the sin of the world.

All: **This is the Chosen One.**

Leader: Trusting the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: God of life,
 All: **you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen**

Leader: Hear the good news:
 We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

All: **Amen**

Leader: Knowing that God is at peace with you, I invite you to share a sign of God's peace with one another.

HYMN **Away in a Manger**

ELW #277



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the sky looked
 Je - sus no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay; the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Glorious God,
 You call your people to listen for the voices that point us to your Son. As John proclaimed the Lamb of God, help us to recognize Christ's presence among us and to follow where he leads. In Jesus' name we pray,

All: **Amen**

SONG**Birthday of a King**

Carl Deis

Kristi Ames & Cal Greening, vocalists
Jan Gilbertson, piano

PSALM 32:1-2**Pew Bible Page 440**

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

10:30 August Douglas Myers

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

HYMN**It Came upon a Midnight Clear****ELW #282**

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, alt.
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

THE HOLY GOSPEL according to St. John the First Chapter
All sing: "Glory to you, O Lord."**GOSPEL: John 1:19-34****Pew Bible Page 862**

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but he confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,' "
as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why, then, are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

SERMON

Pastor Michael Jordan

OFFERING

All is Well

Kristi Ames & Cal Greening, vocalists
Jan Gilbertson, piano

arr. Lloyd Larson

OFFERTORY O Christmas Tree not in ELW

Tune: O TANNENBAUM
TRADITIONAL GERMAN

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, O tree of green, unchanging.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, O tree of green, unchanging.
Your boughs, so green in summer time, Do brave the snow of wintertime.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, O tree of green, unchanging.**

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You set my heart a-singing.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You set my heart a-singing.
Like little stars, your candles bright Sent to the world a wondrous light.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You set my heart a-singing.**

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You come from God, eternal.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You come from God, eternal.
A symbol of the Lord of Love Whom God to man sent from above.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You come from God, eternal.**

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You speak of God unchanging.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You speak of God unchanging.
You tell us all to faithful be, And trust in God eternally.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, You speak of God unchanging.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. Amen

LAMB OF GOD (All Sing)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace. Grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN In the Bleak Midwinter - St. 3 not in hymnal

ELW #294

1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, fros - ty wind made moan,
2. Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
3. An - gels and ar - chan - gels may have ga - thered there,
4. What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign.
che - ru - bim and se - ra - phim throng - ed the air;
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow, the
In the bleak mid - win - ter, a sta - ble place suf - ficed the
but his mo - ther on - ly, in her mai - den bliss, the
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
Lord God Al - migh - ty, Je - sus Christ.
wor - shipped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
yet what I can I give him: give my

Text: Christina G. Rossetti, 1872

Tune: Gustav Holst, 1906

Irregular

CRANHAM

www.hymnary.org/text/in_the_bleak_midwinter

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

All: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Move us to discover the wonders of your love, in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ with us.

All: Amen

BENEDICTION

Leader: May the light of Jesus, the Lamb of God, shine upon your path;
The Spirit give you courage to testify to his love;
and may God's mercy surround you, this day and always.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Sing: Amen

HYMN The First Noel)

ELW #300

1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin-ing

cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the

they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . great light, and . . so it con -

Refrain

night that was so deep.
tin - ued both day and night. No - el, No - el, No -

el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English carol, c. 17th cent.

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English carol, c. 17th cent.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with His blood salvation bought. Refrain

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729

J. S. Bach

Jan Gilbertson, organ

LEADING TODAY'S WORSHIP

Preacher: Pastor Michael Jordan
Assisting: Pastor Amy Mihelich Smith

Music

Kristi Ames & Cal Greening, vocalists
Jan Gilbertson, organ

NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Amy Mihelich Smith

Jesus Says Come and See

John 1:35-51

(Psalm 66:1-5)

Music

Emma Hatch, soloist

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