

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 2022

4 pm



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

www.stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)

(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

TOLLING THE BELL AND WELCOME

PRELUDE *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* *James Mansfield*
(© 1990 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE *Love Has Come* *ELW 292 (v. 1)*

*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.*

(Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950; Music: F. Seguin, Recueil de noels composes en largue provencale, 1856; Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna Music)

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* *ELW 283 (vv. 1, 3)*
(Text and music: attr. John Frances Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880)

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.

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Still, Still, Still* *arr. Dan R. Edwards*
(© 2013 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

OFFERING HYMN *As With Gladness Men of Old* *ELW 302 (vv. 1, 3)*
(Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872)

STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 913-634-7131	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 443-286-5511
M. Claire Miller, OSSD Deacon	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
Martha Requard, Director of Music	Scott Becker, Sexton

For emergencies call 443-844-9314

*****The Pastors are off on Fridays****

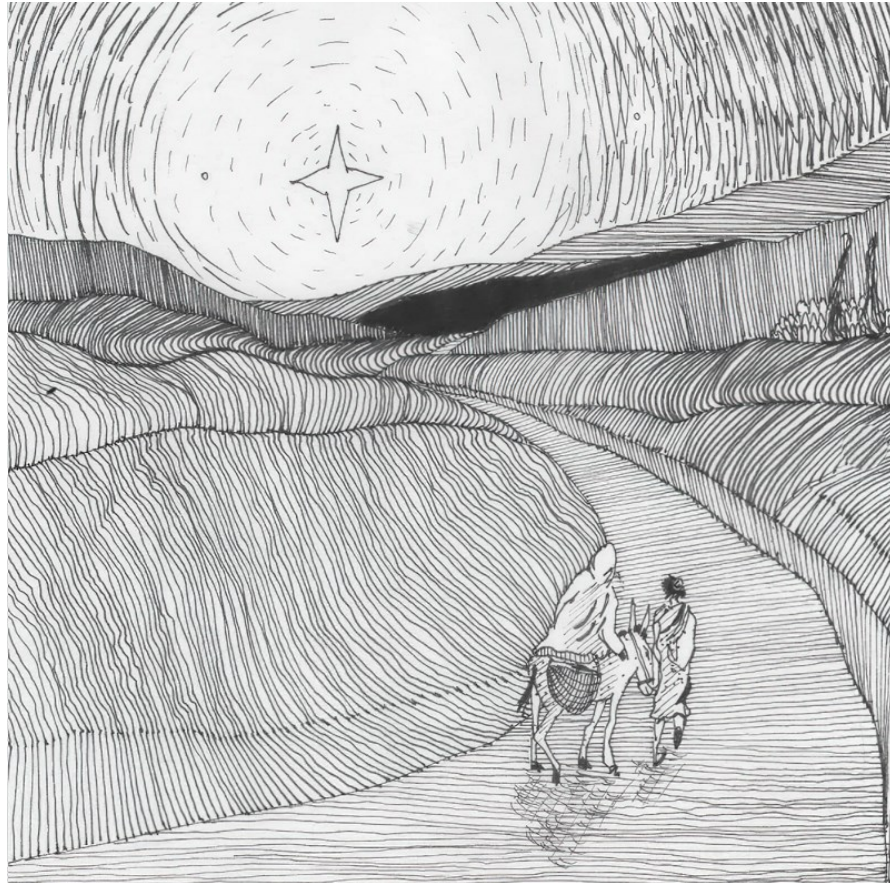


St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



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Merry Christmas from the Pastors and Staff!



OFFERING 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.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our 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:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

(The assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, crossing your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION HYMNS *Silent Night, Holy Night!* *ELW 281*

(Text: Joseph Mohr, 1972-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885; Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863)

Away in a Manger *ELW 277*

(Text: north American, 19th cent.; Music: James R. Murray, 1841-1905)

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve *ELW 271*

(Text: Marie Wexelsen, 1832-1911; tr. Peter A. Sveeggen, 1881-1959; Music: Peder Knudsen, 1819-1863; Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, make us messengers of your peace. Let us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Those Serving Today	4 pm
Assisting Minister	Tony Jasinski
Crucifer	Gabby G. (C)
Acolyte (s)	Olivia S.
Lector	Michelle Alkire
Communion Assistant	Michelle Alkire
Ushers	Dave Kocan
	James White
	Rob & Mandy Gray
	Joan Kraft

Announcements

Join us tomorrow at 10 am for our Christmas Day Service.

- † Thank you Altar Guild & Friends for all the time and work you put into the “greening” of our Sanctuary and for all the additional preparations you do for our Christmas Eve Services – you give us a special gift of Christmas beauty!
- † Please leave your poinsettias until after the 8:30 pm service tonight. If you are unable to pick them up at that time, you may pick them up after the 10 am Christmas Day service or please call the church office at 410-665-1234 to make arrangements to pick them up.
- † The church office will be closed on Monday, December 26th.
- † The Pastors are on vacation from Tuesday, December 27th—Thursday, December 29th.
- † Join us on Sunday, January 1st at 10 am for our Lessons and Carols Service.



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of our wedding anniversary on December 26th by Nancy and Ed Ford.

We are taking flower dedications for 2023. The dates available are: January 15th, February 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, April 9th, 16th and 23rd and May 7th, June 4th, 18th and 25th. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

Social Ministry is participating in the “Food For Thought Program”. With your help, we are providing weekend take home food bags for 18 children in need at Carney Elementary. This program would not be possible without the help of our congregation and community. **Our greatest need at this time is: Chef Boyardee single serving meals, peanut butter crackers, breakfast bars and cookies.**



Venmo is Here! We are happy to announce that you can give your offering using Venmo. Enter @stjohnsparkville in the Venmo App or scan the QR code.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

O Little Town of Bethlehem (verse 1)

*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.*

(Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893; Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908)

Once in Royal David's City (verse 1)

*Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.*

(Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895; Music: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876)

Silent Night (verse 1)

*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.*

(Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885; Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863)

Away in a Manger (verse 1)

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

(Text: north American, 19th cent.; Music: James R. Murray, 1841-1905)

The First Noel (verse 1)

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

(Text and music: English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901)

It Came upon the Midnight Clear (verse 1)

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

(Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876; Music: Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900)

Angels We Have Heard on High (verse 1)

*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.*

(Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Henry, The Crown of Jesus Music, 1864; Music: French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958)

What Child is This? (verse 1)

*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!*

(Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898; Music: English ballad, 16th cent.)

We Three Kings of Orient Are (verse 1)

*We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, fiend and fountain, moor
and mountain, following yonder star.
Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright: westward leading, still
proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

(Text and music: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891, alt.)

Joy to the World (verse 1)

*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.*

(Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Music: English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872)

SENDING

BLESSING

*The Lord now bless and keep you; God's love in you increase
By God's own face, with shining grace, grant you eternal peace
To Father, Son, and Spirit, eternal One-in-Three
Be thanks and praise through all our days, into eternity. Amen.*

SENDING HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

Text and music: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.)

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

Robert W. Thygerson

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