



**Lessons and Carols
December 26, 2021**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We extend a special **welcome** to those who are our guests. May God bless this time of worship for you as we are blessed by your presence. If you have no church home we invite you to join with us and consider Our Savior's as your church home. If you are not baptized and would like to talk about baptism as part of your faith journey, please speak with one of the pastors.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on December 26 or January 2.

REMEMBER, contributions to be credited to 2021 need to be at the church office by noon on December 31. Our thanks to all who have supported the life and ministry of Our Savior's in the past year with time, talent, and treasure. May God continue to bless our ministry together in Christ's name in the coming year.

OFFERING: No offering is collected during our worship this day; however, we do welcome your support of our ministries and thank you for your gifts. Together we make a difference in the lives of others. Offering plates are available as you leave the sanctuary. For online giving go to the church website: oursaviorswestsalem.org/giving. Or text 608-471-7267.

WE THANK Wendy Amundson, Director of Youth Ministry, for leading us in worship today while Pastor Jon and Pastor Jean are on vacation this week.

WE THANK LaCrosse Area Synod Bishop Felix Malpica for providing the sermon that many throughout our synod will hear this day.

Order of Worship

*Please stand as you are able

WELCOME

*GREETING

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Sing to the Lord and bless God's name;
tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations, God's marvelous
works among all the peoples.
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.
**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world,
and those who live in it.**

Let the whole creation sing for joy at the presence of God,
who is coming.
**God is coming indeed, to judge the earth with
righteousness, and the peoples with equity and
truth. Praise the Lord!**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and
open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all
things we may think and act according to your good will and
may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah

CAROL

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”



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 And you, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
4 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.
who toil a-long the climb-ing way with pain-ful steps and slow:
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,
look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift-ly on the 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.
oh, rest be-side the wea-ry road and hear the an-gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an-gels sing.

SERMON – Bishop Felix Malpica

Luke 2:41-52

SECOND LESSON Luke 2:1-7

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child

CAROL "Away in a Manger"



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - 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 bright 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.

THIRD LESSON Luke 2:8-16

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah

CAROL

“Angels We Have Heard On High”



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

FOURTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth

CAROL

“Silent Night”



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

*PRAYERS

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe. Unite us with those who celebrate your birth even when they are weighed down by grief, loss, poverty, hunger, or injustice. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe. Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of creation, that we live in service to you and the natural world. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You come to us through relationships of many kinds: families, friendships, communities, and nations. Guide us in these relationships, that we recognize the Christ child in one another and show your love to those most vulnerable.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You come to us through people whom the world forgets. Poor shepherds and an imprisoned Paul announced your good news. Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell, or in any need this day.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You come to us in acts of justice and forgiveness. Open our hearts to forgive one another, without permitting injustice. Supply us with the wisdom to be clothed with love, binding all things together in perfect harmony. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You come to us through those who have died yet live with you forever. We give thanks for Stephen, deacon and martyr, who gave his life to tell the story of your love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

*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.

***BLESSING**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Joy to the World"*



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

Thanks be to God.