

Christmas Day

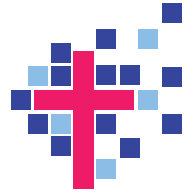
The Nativity of Our Lord



Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
December 25, 2020

Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*





WELCOME

Pastor Dave Thomas

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray: Gracious and gifting Father, we praise you today for sending us your Son, demonstrating that your love knows no bounds, and your grace has not limit. As we worship today, come near to us, into our homes and into our hearts, that we may experience the joy of this very holy day. This we pray, in the name of him whose birth we celebrate once more, Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

ELW #289

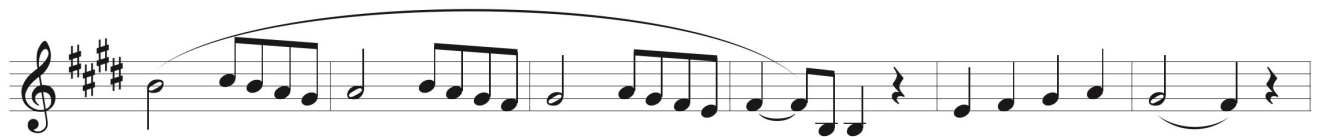
Angels We Have Heard On High



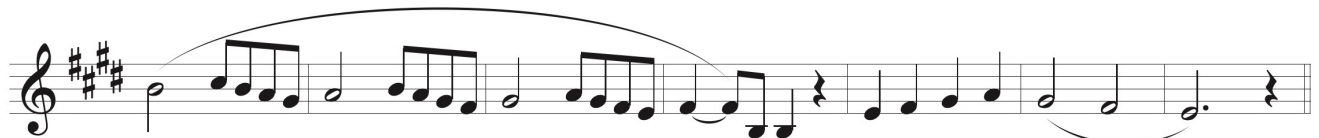
1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains;
2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?



And the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some ti - dings be; which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?



Glo - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o;



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

Text: French Carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: GLORIA, French Carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes. 1887-1958



LESSONS

THE LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-4 (NRSV)

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:19 (NRSV)

P A reading from the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke.

¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

P This is good news. Thanks be to God.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Pastor Dave Thomas

I'll Be Home For Christmas

SONG OF THE DAY

ELW #300

The First Noel

1. The first Noel up 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
 in the east be - yond them far; and

fields where they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a
 to the earth it gave great light, and

cold win - ter's night that was so deep. No -
 so it con - tin - ued both day and night.

el, No - el, No - el, No - el!

Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English Traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English Traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901

CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

OPENING CHRISTMAS GIFTS

OFFERING

Colin Walker, handbells; Ken Hayes, guitar

Variations on Greensleeves – arr. Ken Hayes & Frank Buttler

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

May we treasure the words of the Christmas angels,
foretelling then proclaiming the birth of the Christ Child.

May we treasure the Word made flesh,
who dwelt among us full of grace and truth.

May we ponder the precious gift of God's Son, our Savior.

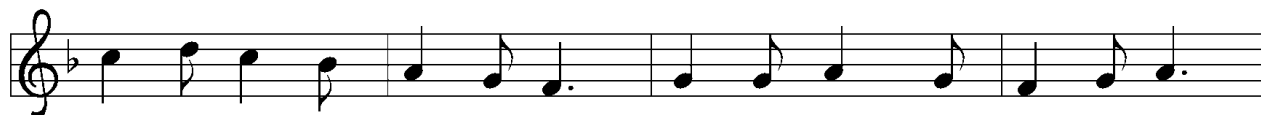
May we share this good news with one and with all.
Christ is born today! Thanks be to God! Amen!



Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

SENDING

From home to home, let the message ring out. From rooftop to rooftop, let us shout the good news of great joy for all to hear! From the mountain top to the valley below, and everywhere in between, let it be known why we are filled with such joy! Christ is born today! Today is Christmas!

