

Peace Ev. Lutheran Church
Children's Christmas Program
With Lessons and Carols

23/12/2018



Matthew 1:21

“And she will bring forth a Son,
and you shall call His name **JESUS**,
for He will save His people from their sins.”

Organ Prelude

Invocation

P: We begin this Children’s Christmas Service with Lessons and Carols, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: ³⁰ Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name **JESUS**. ³² “He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ “And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” (Luke 1:30-33)

Processional Hymn

Once In Royal David’s City (LH 632)

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.

2 He came down to earth from heaven
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 And His shelter was a stable,
 And His cradle was a stall;
 With the poor and mean and lowly
 Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

- 3 And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heavên above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.
- 4 Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Reading 1

God Announces In The Garden Of Eden That The Offspring Of The Woman Will Crush The Serpent's Head. This Is The First Promise Of A Saviour.

Genesis 3:8-15, ⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

⁹ Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?" ¹⁰ So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹ And He said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

¹² Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, "What *is* this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

Children: *Christ came to earth one night,
as a tiny babe.*

*God knew our helpless plight,
and sent His Son to save.*

*This was the first Christmas gift
from heaven ... to earth below;*

*Christ came to heal the rift,
and save us from our woe.*

*Christ is the centre of Christmas.
At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus.*

From Heaven Above To Earth I Come (LH 23 v 1-3)

“From heaven above to earth I come
 To bear good news to every home;
 Glad tidings of great joy I bring
 Whereof I now will say and sing:

- 2 “To you this night is born a child
 Of Mary, chosen virgin mild
 This little child, of lowly birth,
 Shall be the joy of all the earth.

- 3 “This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
 Who in all need shall aid afford;
 He will Himself your Saviour be,
 From all your sins to set you free.

Reading 2

The Prophet Isaiah Foretells Christ’s Birth And Kingdom.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7, ² The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.

... ⁶ For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of *His* government and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Praise God The Lord, Ye Sons Of Men (LH 26)

Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men,
 Before His highest throne;
 Today He opens heaven again
 And gives us His own Son.

- 2 He leaves His heavenly Father's throne,
 Is born an infant small,
 And in a manger, poor and lone,
 Lies in a humble stall.
- 3 His power to use He now refrains,
 No crown adorns His brow;
 He who as king for ever reigns
 Comes as a servant now.
- 4 He is the branch of David's line,
 King David's Lord and Son,
 Through whom and by whose grace divine
 The kingdom must be won.
- 5 A wondrous change which He doth make:
 He takes our flesh and blood,
 And He conceals for sinners' sake
 His majesty as God.
- 6 He serves that I a lord may be –
 A great exchange indeed!
 Could Jesus' love do more for me
 To help me in my need?
- 7 He opens us again the door
 Of Paradise today;
 The angel guards the gate no more:
 To God our thanks we pay.

Reading 3

The Prophet Micah Announces The Birth-Place Of The Saviour.

Micah 5:2-5a, ² “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting.”

³ Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time *that* she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel.

⁴ And He shall stand and feed *His flock* In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth; ⁵ And this *One* shall be peace.

O Little Town Of Bethlehem (LH 633)

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.

- 2 For Christ is born of Mary;
 And, gathered all above,
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep
 Their watch of wondering love.
 O morning stars, together
 Proclaim the holy birth,
 And praises sing to God the king,
 And peace to men on earth.

- 3 How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still
The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 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;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Reading 4

St. John Describes The Mystery Of The Incarnation.

John 1:1-14, ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John. ⁷ This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light. ⁹ That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: ¹³ who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

We Celebrate Christmas Because Jesus Our Saviour Is Born.

<i>Children:</i>	Jesus brings LOVE
	Jesus brings PEACE
	Jesus brings JOY
	Jesus brings FORGIVENESS
	Jesus brings SALVATION

Who Is He In Yonder Stall (ALHB 493)

Who is He in yonder stall
 At whose feet the shepherds fall?
'Tis the Lord! O wondrous story!
'Tis the Lord, the King of Glory!
At His feet, O let us fall,
And adore Him, Lord of all.

- 2 Who is He in yonder cot,
 Bending to His toilsome lot?
'Tis the Lord! etc.
- 3 Who is He in deep distress,
 Fasting in the wilderness?
'Tis the Lord! etc.
- 4 Who is He that stands and weeps
 At the grave where Lazarus sleeps?
'Tis the Lord! etc.
- 5 Lo, at midnight, who is He
 Praying in Gethsemane?
'Tis the Lord! etc.
- 6 Who is He, in Calvary's throes,
 Asks for blessings on His foes?
'Tis the Lord! etc.
- 7 Who is He that from the grave
 Comes to heal and help and save?
'Tis the Lord! etc.
- 8 Who is He that from His throne
 Rules the world of light alone?
'Tis the Lord! etc.

Cong. stands

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and Luther's explanation.

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary;
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
 He descended into hell;
 the third day He rose again from the dead;
 He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the
 Father almighty;
 from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. Amen.

P: What does this mean?

Cong: I believe that Jesus Christ - true God, Son of the Father from eternity, and true man, born of the Virgin Mary - is my Lord.

P: At great cost He has saved and redeemed me, a lost and condemned person.

Cong: He has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil -

P: Not with silver or gold, but with His holy and precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

Cong: All this He has done that I may be His own, live under Him in His kingdom,

P: And serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

Cong: Just as He is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

P: This is most certainly true.

Reading 5**An Angel Appears To Mary And The Birth Of Jesus Is Foretold**

Luke 1:26-38, ²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name *was* Mary.

²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!" ²⁹ But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.

³⁰ Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³² "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" ³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "*The Holy Spirit* will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

³⁶ "Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. ³⁷ "For with God nothing will be impossible." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

O Come, All Ye Faithful (LH 34)

O come, all ye faithful,
 Joyful and triumphant,
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold 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!

2 God of God,
 Light of light,
 Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
 Very God,
 Begotten, not created:
Chorus

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
 Sing in exultation
 Sing, all ye citizens of heavên above;
 Glory to God
 In the highest:
Chorus

Reading 6**John Leaps For Joy, While Still In His Mother's Womb**

Luke 1:39-45, ³⁹ Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, ⁴⁰ and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

⁴² Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed *are* you among women, and blessed *is* the fruit of your womb!" ⁴³ "But why *is* this *granted* to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" ⁴⁴ "For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. ⁴⁵ "Blessed *is* she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord."

Joy To The World! (LH 627)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:

Let earth receive her king:

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And heaven and nature sing.

And heaven and nature sing.

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns:

Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy.

Repeat the sounding joy.

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

- 3 No more let sins and sorrows 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.
- 4 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, and wonders of His love.

Reading 7

St. Matthew Tells Of The Birth Of Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25, ¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

²⁰ But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

²² So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

²⁴ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵ and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

J E S U S

Children:

J is for Joy, Joy to the world, the Lord is come
E is for Earth, Let earth receive her King
S is for Stable, where Jesus was born
U is for Us, Unto us a Child is born
S is for Shepherds, While shepherds watched their flocks by night

O Thou Holiest, O Thou Happiest (LH 630)

O Thou holiest, O Thou happiest.
 Grace-bestowing Christmastide!
 Christ in a manger
 Saves from all danger:
 O rejoice, ye Christians far and wide!

2 O Thou holiest, O Thou happiest,
 Peace-proclaiming Christmastide!
 Christ's light is beaming,
 Mankind redeeming;
 O rejoice, ye Christians far and wide!

3 O Thou holiest, O Thou happiest,
 Life imparting Christmastide!
 Angels from glory
 Chant the great story
 O rejoice, ye Christians far and wide!

Reading 8

St. Luke Tells Of The Birth Of The Christ-Child.

Luke 2:1-7, ¹ And it came to pass in those days *that* a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. ⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Away In A Manger (LH 634)

Children 1st verse: Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Reading 9**The Shepherds Are Told Of The Birth Of Jesus.**

Luke 2:8-12, ⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ “For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² “And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night (LH 624)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
 All seated on the ground,
 The angel of the Lord came down,
 And glory shone around.

- 2 Fear not, said he (for mighty dread
 Had seized their troubled mind);
 Glad tidings of great joy I bring
 To you and all mankind
- 3 To you in David's town this day
 Is born of David's line
 A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
 And this shall be the sign:
- 4 'The heavenly babe you there shall find
 To human view displayed.
 All meanly wrapped in swathing bands.
 And in a manger laid'

- 5 Thus spake the seraph: and forthwith
 Appeared a shining throng
 Of angels praising God, who thus
 Addressed their joyful song:
- 6 ‘All glory be to God on high.
 And to the earth be peace
 Good-will henceforth from heaven to men
 Begin and never cease.’

Reading 10

The Angels Proclaim Peace, And The Shepherds Go To Bethlehem.

Luke 2:13-20, ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.”

¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷ Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ¹⁸ And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart.

²⁰ Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (LH 33)

Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King;
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled.
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the angelic host proclaim:
 Christ is born in Bethlehem.
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
 Glory to the new-born King.*

- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,
 Late in time behold Him come,
 Offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 Hail, the [^]incarnate Deity
 Pleas'd as man with man to dwell,
 Jesus, our Immanuel!

Chorus

- 3 Hail, the heavên-born Prince of peace!
 Hail, the sun of righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings,
 Risen with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by,
 Born that man no more may die,
 Born to raise the sons of earth,
 Born to give them second birth.

Chorus

Reading 11

The Wise Men Are Led By The Star To Jesus.

Matthew 2:1-11, ¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² saying, *“Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”*

³ When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ So they said to him, *“In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: ⁶ ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’”*

⁷ Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, *“Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”* ⁹ When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. ¹¹ And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

As With Gladness Men Of Old (LH 40)

As with gladness men of old
 Did the guiding star behold,
 As with joy they hailed its light,
 Leading onward, beaming bright;
 So, most gracious Lord, may we
 Evermore be led to Thee.

- 2 As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour to Thy lowly bed
There to bend the knee before
Thee, whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy-seat.

- 3 As they offered gifts most rare
At Thy cradle rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heavenly king.

- 4 Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

- 5 In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Alleluias to our king.

PRAYER:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All. 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, for ever and
 ever. Amen.

P: **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
 and be gracious to you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
 and give you † peace.

Cong. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Presentation of gifts

Silent Night (LH 629)

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.

2 Silent night, holy night!
 Shepherds quake at the sight.
 Glory streams from heaven afar
 Heavenly hosts sing: Hallelujah!
 Christ the Saviour is born,
 Christ the Saviour is born.

3 Silent night, holy night!
 Son of God, Loves pure light
 Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
 With the dawn of redeeming grace,
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

*Pastor, Sharyn, Rebekah, Simon, Benjamin, Joanna, and Matthew
 wish you all a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year
 as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*