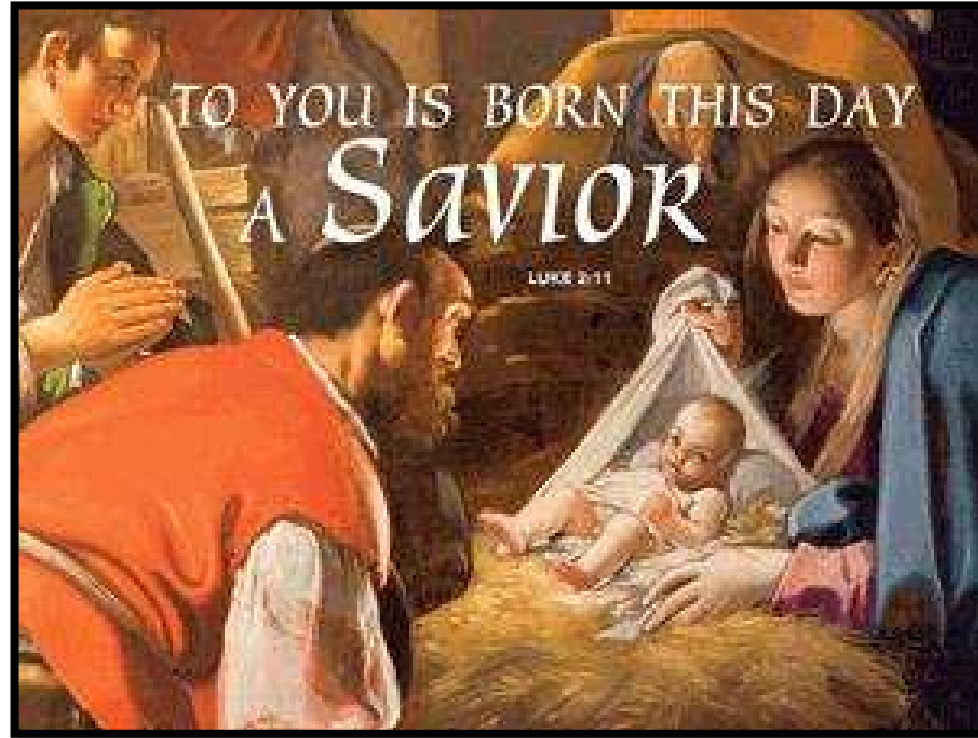


THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

DECEMBER 24, 2017

5:00 PM



**Christ Lutheran Church**

29 S. George Street, York, Pa. 17401

**Our Mission:**

Reflect God's love in the heart of York

**Our Vision:**

To be a vibrant congregation in the heart of York praising God,  
connecting people to Christ,  
and serving the people of York and the world

*Companions with the Itete Hospital of the Konde Diocese,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania*

### **About this Service**

We celebrate Christmas with a service of Word and Sacrament to celebrate the nativity of Christ.

Children participate fully at this liturgy, as they do in worship each week. Because baptized children are fully members of the Church, they listen to God's Word and gather at the Lord's table. Children are readers, ushers, acolytes, choir members, and participants in the procession. Feel free to take children in and out as necessary.

Encourage your child to participate in parts of the service. Children quickly learn responses, the Lord's Prayer, passing the peace and other actions.



## The Entrance Rite

### Processional Hymn LBW #45 "Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"

(All stand and face the processional cross at the entrance to the nave for the singing of the processional hymn.)

### Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! Oh,  
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God . . . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, oh, come, let us a - dore him,



oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

**Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☑ **And also with you.**

**The Liturgy of the Word**

☐ Let us pray...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 only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

*\*All are seated.*

**Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** "Silent Night" - *Violinist: Olivia Kotchish*

*\*All stand to welcome the Gospel.*

**The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20**

☐ A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter. ☩ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord. ☩ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*\*All remain standing for the hymn on the following page.*

**Hymn** LBW #71 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

*Before the hymn, the Children's Choir sings:*

"Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory be to God on high!

And on earth be peace to the people in whom God is well pleased."

*Stanza 1: Children's Choir; Stanza 2: All; Stanza 3: All*

### 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.



Glo - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - -



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

Text: French carol; tr. "Crown of Jesus," 1862  
Music: GLORIA, French carol

*\*All are seated.*

**Children's Message**

## Homily

\*All stand for the hymn.

**Hymn** LBW #50 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

### Angels, from the Realms of Glory



- 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

## Apostles' Creed

**☩ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.**

## Prayers

**A** Lord, in your mercy, **C** **Hear our prayer.**

**P** O God, who shines light into darkness, receive these prayers and the prayers of our hearts through the power of the Spirit, in Jesus' name.

**C** **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Meal

### Peace

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** **And also with you.**

*\*All are seated for the offering and hymn. All stand for the final stanza of the hymn.*

**Hymn** LBW #65 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

### Silent Night, Holy Night



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,



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,

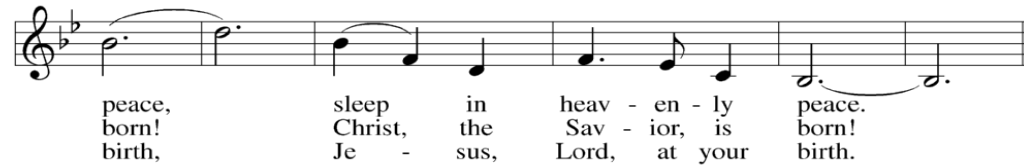


Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



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





peace,  
born!  
birth,

sleep  
Christ,  
Je - sus,

in  
the  
Lord,

heav - en - ly  
Sav - ior, is  
at your

peace.  
born!  
birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

*\*All remain standing.*

### **Offertory Prayer**

**A** Let us pray...Merciful Father,

**C** we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessings for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### **Preface**

**P** It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **Sanctus**

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

☐ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**☑ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

☐ Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

**☑ Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

☐ Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

☩ **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Fraction**

☐ Our Lord Jesus Christ is the true bread that has come down from heaven; he is our Emmanuel, God-with-us. Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

☩ **Lord, feed us with your love.**

### **Agnus Dei**

☩ **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.**

*All are seated for the distribution and the singing of the hymns.*

*Approach the Pastor at the center of the transept to receive the Blessed Sacrament. Continue to the right or left to dip the host in the first cup or drink from the common chalice.*

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated at Christ Lutheran Church in accordance with the understanding of the Lutheran Confessions that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine.*

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Blessed Sacrament or come forward for a blessing.*

**Music during the Distribution**

**Hymn** LBW #67 "Away in a Manger"

## 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 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.



**LBW #44** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

## Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.  
Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol



**LBW #39** "Joy to the World" \*All stand for the final stanza.

### 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.

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

### The Dismissal

#### Post-Communion Prayer

☩ Let us pray...Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ☩ **Amen.**

## Benediction

☩ Almighty God bless you, the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit. ☩ Amen.

## Recessional Hymn LBW #60 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav’n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled.”  
late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin’s womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na-tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born king!”

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

**Dismissal**

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**☞ Thanks be to God.**

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Pastor	The Reverend Alan J. Watt
Director of Music and Administrative Assistant	Todd B. Davis
Assisting Ministers	Cliff Billet, Paul Schendel
Acolytes	Adeline Gerz, Jacob Kotchish, Andrew Ports
Reader	Nakayla Knight
Altar Guild	Beverly Bowers, Ch., Lynn Keller, Judy Leece, Marty Olson, Mary Shepp, Susan Thomas
Door Monitor	Don Cook
Ushers	Ed Schaeberle, Dave Barkdoll, Scott and Julie Sterner, Greg and Nancy Bentley, Scott Donner, Eric Gerz, Clair Raffensberger, Dennis Risser

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**Welcome all!**

So we can know you better, please complete an attendance card found in the pew and place it in an offering plate. Please sign our guest book located in the upper narthex. We hope you return to worship and participate in our life in Christ!

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[www.facebook.com/christlutheranyork](https://www.facebook.com/christlutheranyork)