

# The Nativity of Our Lord December 24, 2021

# **Christ Lutheran Church**

# www.christlutheran-sarnia.ca

Rev. Kirk Radford, Pastor Church Office: 519-869-2838

Email: pastor@christlutheran-sarnia.ca

# **♣** A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS **♣**

**HYMN OF INVOCATION** *O Come, All ye Faithful LSB 379 (stand)* 

#### INVOCATION

ightharpoonup In the name of the Father, and of ightharpoonup the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

### **BIDDING PRAYER**

P Beloved in Christ: In this Christmas season it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us, the Christchild, lying in a manger.

Let us read and learn in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God from the first days after our fall into sin to the glorious redemption brought to us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for people all over the world, who would delight with us to know the good news of Jesus Christ and who would join with us in singing his praises. Let us pray for the people of this city and for all those in our own congregation.

And because this would please our Lord, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who are sad, the lonely and the unloved, the elderly and the little children. We especially remember all those who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love him, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in greater light than we, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, who died in faith, and who live before the throne of God and praise him each day in his temple. We confess that we are united with them as we are united with one another.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven in the words Christ himself taught us:

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

(sit)

# LESSON ONE Genesis 3:8–16

<sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup> And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the

garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup>The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

<sup>16</sup> To the woman he said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children.

Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

**HYMN** 

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child LSB 374

Isaiah 7:10-14

## **LESSON TWO**

<sup>10</sup> Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: <sup>11</sup> "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." <sup>13</sup> And he said,

"Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

**HYMN** 

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing LSB 377

#### **LESSON THREE**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called

Wonderful Counsellor,

Mighty God,

Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.



Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

#### **HYMN**

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming LSB 359

#### **LESSON FOUR**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

- For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.
- And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
- Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
- Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- A multitude of camels shall cover you,
   the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
   all those from Sheba shall come.
   They shall bring gold and frankincense,
   and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.
- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

**HYMN** 

It Came upon the Midnight Clear LSB 366

**LESSON FIVE** 

Luke 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's

name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the



Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also (conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> And

Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

**HYMN** 

What Child is This LSB 370

LESSON SIX Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

**HYMN** 

O Little Town of Bethlehem LSB 361

#### **LESSON SEVEN**

Luke 2:8-21

<sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign

for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

<sup>21</sup> And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

**HYMN** 

Angels We Have Heard on High LSB 368

#### **SERMON**

The ushers will come down and light their candles from the pastor's candle. They will then light members of the congregation's candles. Please tip the unlighted wick to the flame so that the wax does not spill on the carpet.

(stand)

**HYMN** 

Silent Night, Holy Night LSB 363

#### **COLLECT**

P O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we

joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen. (extinguish candles)

#### **BENEDICTION**

- C Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART

Hark the Herald Angels Sing LSB 380



#### **Welcome Visitors!**

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church in the name of our Incarnate Saviour! We are glad you are here for this special Christmas Eve celebration of lessons and carols as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Christ Lutheran Church is a place where God gives His gifts to His people. If you are visiting this evening we invite you to join us Sunday mornings at 10:00 for the Divine Service. If you are looking for a church family or if we can be of any help to you, please call the pastor or speak with him after the service.



Sunday Adult Bible Study Sunday Divine Service 9:00 AM 10:00 AM