

C H R I S T M A S E V E



CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church
Preschool & University Ministry

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AS WE GATHER

Even the way we say it often masks Him who is the center of it all. Merry Christmas, we say! The world has attempted to take over the holy day and make it a generic holiday. But hidden in the name is the One whose promise, annunciation, incarnation, and birth make this night unique. Tonight, we work to remember what is so easily forgotten and to rehearse the who, what, and why of this special day. We come to hear the Word of God, to have our Lord's birth placed in context with all the glorious details, and to meet Christ, our everlasting gift. Tonight, we put the Christ and the Mass together again and respond with joyful acclamation: Christ is born!

PRESERVICE MUSIC

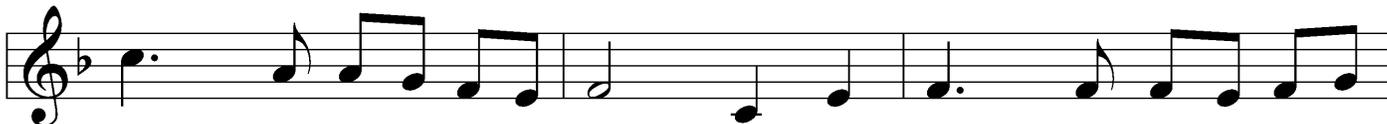
20 Minutes worth (starts at 5:40p ish)

376 ONCE IN ROYAL DAVIDS CITY

Josie Petersen



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.

Text and tune: Public domain

(Welcome & Offering Announcement)

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
- C** the light no darkness can overcome.
- P** Let Your light scatter the darkness
- C** and illumine Your Church.

WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

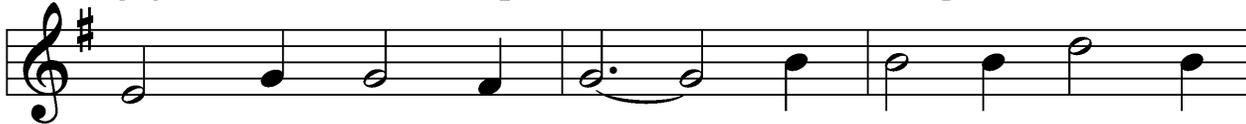
Carla Church



1 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And wait for Christ to
2 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And thank the Lord for
3 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And sing with cheer - ful
4 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And share the won - drous
5 We light the Christ - mas can - dle And sing with peace and



come. With hope, we trust the prom - ise That
rest. With peace, we know our Je - sus Has
heart. With joy, we spread the mes - sage— A
Word. With love, we tell of Je - sus Till
joy. Our hope is now be - got - ten In



He will bring us home. Our hope is in our
come to be our guest. This peace be - yond all
bless - ing to im - part. Our joy is nev - er
all a - round have heard. God's love is for each
Christ, the in - fant boy. God's love with us is



Sav - ior Who wins for us God's fa - vor. We
know - ing With - in our hearts is glow - ing. We
end - ing; The Son to us is send - ing. We
na - tion Through - out His whole cre - a - tion. We
dwell - ing, All dark - ness now dis - pel - ling. We



wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!
wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!
wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!
wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!
cel - e - brate with light, For God makes all things right!

Tune: Public domain

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SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.

- C** O Lord, in the wondrous events of our Savior's birth, You have fulfilled the promise You made through the prophets and delivered to us Your own Son as our Savior and Lord. Help us to meet Christ in the manger of His Word and altar and there to worship Him with joy and thanksgiving. Grant us to carry forth into our lives the wonder of this night and to keep in holy lives the song of the angels at His birth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit we honor one Lord, one God, now and to the end of the ages. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION

John 1:1–5; Isaiah 40:9

- P** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

LUKE 2 VIDEO

370 WHAT CHILD IS THIS

Josie Petersen



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Dear people of God, once again we have heard the message of the angels, visited Bethlehem with shepherds and Magi, and beheld the Son of God in human flesh, born of the Virgin Mary and lying in a manger. Now let us respond with praise and prayer, rejoicing to offer Him our petitions and supplications on behalf of ourselves and everyone according to their need, confident that He will answer with all that is good, right, and best for us all.

Silence for meditation

P Merciful Father, we have lived through a time of great uncertainty and fear and now come again into Your presence on this most holy of nights. Deliver us from all epidemics, from the perils of war and violence, and from the loss of job and home. Open our hearts to receive with faith the joy of our Savior's coming and to trust in His salvation forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, give to those most in need the courage and patience to await Your deliverance, and give to us kind and generous hearts that we share Your gifts with those around us and multiply the blessing of Your rich and daily provision. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O gracious God, deliver Your people from all their afflictions of body and soul, give aid and comfort to the hospitalized, be present with the aged and infirm, and give to the dying and the grieving Your peace, [*especially . . .*], and those now named in our hearts [*silence*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O wise and faithful Father, deliver Your Church from her enemies, and provide her with faithful pastors to serve the Means of Grace to us in Your name. Give Your guidance to those who lead us in our Synod, district, and circuit, and bless especially our pastors, church workers, missionaries, and those preparing for full-time service. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Mighty Lord, You have power over all things. Aid our government and elected leaders with Your Word and Spirit that they be guided by Your commands to pursue justice and work for the common good. Teach them and us the value of life and to work for the protection of the unborn, the care of the widow and orphan, and the support of the aged. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P O loving God, we give You thanks that Mary heard Your Word and pondered it in her heart and that Joseph served Your Son so faithfully. Bless husbands, wives, parents, children, and all families. Help us to ponder Your Word in our hearts and to live it out that our homes be places of blessing and peace. Accept our songs of praise and the tithes and offerings we bring in response to Your mercy and as signs of our gratitude and faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Almighty God, everlasting Father, You brought all things into being through Your Word, and, when sin had stolen creation, You delivered up Your Son, the Word made flesh, to be our Savior and Redeemer. He came as one of us for our sake and offered up Himself as the sacrifice for our sin, thus restoring us to You. Strengthen our faith and confirm our trust that we daily live in the light of His presence and be strengthened in our union with Him and with one another by our communion upon His flesh and blood in this Sacrament.

C **Amen.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P We give You praise and thanksgiving for having given to us Your Son to be our Savior. Grant us with blessed Mary to ponder Him by faith, and enable us by Your Holy Spirit to grow in knowledge and understanding of Him whom You have sent. Accept the worship of our hearts and lives in thanksgiving for His mighty deliverance and bring us at last with the saints of old into Your eternal presence forevermore.

C **Amen.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

O HOLY NIGHT

Solo - Carla Church Acoustic Guitar

387 JOY TO THE WORLD

Samantha Schertenleib

357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Josie Petersen

361 O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Samantha Schertenleib

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away fleshly lusts, that they be ready for Your visitation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

1 John 1:5–7; Matthew 5:14–16

The pastor takes the light from the Christ candle to the acolytes and assisting ministers. They pass the light on to the congregation.

P As the light of these candles illumines our faces, it symbolizes the light of Christ, the Child in the manger at Bethlehem, the Savior suffering our death on the cross and soon to come from His throne on high as Judge of all. He is our light here on earth and the eternal light who enlightens heaven, where there is no need of candle or sun. Rejoice, for the Light of the world has come, who transforms us with the brightness of His glory.

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.**

P But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

C **and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

O God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen! Glory to God in the highest! And peace to His people on earth!

363 SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

Carla Church



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 Thy 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 Thy



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

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POST SERVICE MUSIC - SING O SING

Josie Petersen

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