



Monday, December 25th, 2023

*When he brings the firstborn into the world, he
says, “Let all God's angels worship him.”
Hebrews 1:6*

Opening Hymn ... "O Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379

Invocation & Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

(The center white candle and all four candles around the Advent wreath are lit.)

P: Out of his grace and love for the world, God promised to send a Savior. Through the inspired words of the prophets, the promise was repeated to generation after generation. The prophet Isaiah spoke of the Child to come:

C: "To us a child is born, to us a son is given."

P: Isaiah also prophesied that the child, the son, would be born of a virgin:

C: "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel."

P: The name Emmanuel means "God with us." In Jesus Christ, the Holy Child of Bethlehem, the son of Mary and Son of God, God himself was born among us. **C: God is with us!**

Confession and Absolution

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus our Lord, we recognize our need for a Savior. We have often turned away from your will and your Word. We have listened to the temptations of the world around us. Instead of walking in obedience to you, we follow our own sinful desires. We do not love others as we should. Have mercy on us and forgive us.

P: In Jesus, God himself walked on earth. He took onto himself the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins. He rose in triumph over death. By God's grace through faith in Jesus, we have forgiveness for our sins and the gift of eternal life. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: We give thanks and praise to Jesus, the Lord Emmanuel, who is God with us!

Hymn of Response ... “Amazing Grace”

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord Jesus, you came to be our Savior, to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world, for our sins. You are our Lord Emmanuel. You are “God with us.” As we rejoice today in your birth, we also remember your promise, “I am with you always.” Until you return on the Last Day, watch over us, shelter us with your gracious presence and lead us to grow in faith. Help us to walk in love, following closely in your footsteps, so that by our acts of kindness and words of witness others will come to know and worship you as Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

Hymn ... “What Child Is This” *LSB 370*; vrs. 1-2

Old Testament Reading ... *Isaiah 55:10-13*

Epistle Reading ... *Hebrews 1:1-9*

Gospel Reading ... *John 1:1-14*

Sermon Hymn ... “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *LSB 380*

Sermon

Hymn of Response ... “Angels from the Realms of Glory”
LSB 367; vrs. 1-2, 5

Nicene Creed

Offering & Attendance / Involvement Cards

(The Offering of Peace is exchanged during Offering)

Prayers

P: (after each petition)... Jesus, our Lord Emmanuel,

C: Be present with us always.

The Words of Our Lord

Lord’s Prayer

Distribution

Distribution Hymns “Go Tell It on the Mountain” *LSB* 388;
“God Loves Me Dearly” *LSB* 392; “Silent Night, Holy Night” *LSB* 363

Benediction

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God ...

**C: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have
seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of
grace and truth.**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn ... “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” *LSB* 386; vrs. 1-3

