

Saints & Angel Hosts



Rejoice

Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church
Children's Christmas Service
December 24, 2018
6:00 PM

Saints and Angel Hosts Rejoice

Sunday School Christmas Eve Service
Focusing on the Songs of Luke's Gospel
By James Moeller

Preservice Music: 5-8th Grade Handbells

Processional Hymn: CW 62 "Joy to the World"
Congregation verses 1-3, Sunday School verse 4

Invocation:

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.

Call to Worship: (selected verses from Psalm 95 and Luke 1)

M: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;
C: **Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.**

M: Let us come before him with thanksgiving
C: **And extol him with music and song.**

M: Come, let us bow down in worship,
C: **Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

M: The rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine light on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death,
C: **To guide our feet into the path of peace.**

M: Unto us the Christ is born.
C: **Come, let us worship him!**

Sunday School Song: "Noel"

Reading:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:1-9,14)

Congregational Hymn: "Hosanna to the Coming Lord"
stanza 1 (CW 21) and stanza 2 (original lyrics based on John 1)

Introduction:

Songs from Luke’s Gospel

PreK/K Song: “Away in a Manger”

Part I: Good News in the Old Testament

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” (Genesis 3:15)

“I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” (Genesis 12:3)

“The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his.” (Genesis 49:10)

“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.” (Deuteronomy 18:15)

Sunday School Song: “Behold, a Branch Is Growing”
stanzas 1,2,4 with handbells by Sunday School 8th Grade

“In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.” (Jeremiah 33:15,16)

“For you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays.” (Malachi 4:2)

Congregational Hymn: CW 35 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”
stanzas 1-3

Part II: The Song of Zechariah (“Benedictus”)

“When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, ‘No! He is to be called John.’ They said to her, ‘There is no one among your relatives who has that name.’ Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone’s astonishment he wrote, ‘His name is John.’ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God. All the neighbors were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, ‘What then is this child going to be?’ For the Lord’s hand was with him.” (Luke 1:57-66)

Sunday School Song: CW 275 “Blest Be the God of Israel”

Part III: The Song of Mary (“Magnificat”)

“At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and

Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!’ And Mary said: ‘My soul glorifies the Lord.’” (Luke 1:39-46)

Junior Choir Song: “My Soul Will Magnify the Lord” by Keith and Kristin Getty

Part IV: The Song of the Angels (“Gloria in excelsis Deo”)

“In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.” (Luke 2:1-7)

“There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.’ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.’” (Luke 2:8-14)

Sunday School Song: “Angels We Have Heard On High”

Part V: The Song of Simeon (“Nunc Dimittis”)

“There was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ‘Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.’ The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him.” (Luke 2:25-33)

Sunday School Song: “Nunc Dimittis”

Congregational Hymn: CW 65 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”
Stanzas 1,3,4

Offering

Musical Selection by Eden Payton

Congregational Hymn: CW 60 “Silent Night”
(with Jake Ihlenfeldt)

Prayer for Christmas Eve

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

Recessional Hymn: CW 80 “Angels From the Realms of Glory”
Sunday School Children stanza 1, **Congregation 2-5**

Candlelight Service We invite you to worship with us again at 7:30 tonight as we rejoice through Word and Song with the Gospel writer Luke as he shares the joy of Jesus birth with his friend Theophilus.

Our **Christmas Day Worship** at 9:00am will reflect on the meaning of Jesus birth. Without him we live in darkness – ignorant of God and blind to his saving love. But Jesus is the revelation of all these things. He truly is the light in the darkness. His birth offers us an enduring hope of forgiveness, peace, and eternal life with God.

Thank You!

The Sunday School teachers and Pastor Sullivan wish to thank everyone for their cards, gifts, and encouragement at this holy time of year. These things are greatly appreciated and not soon forgotten! We thank the Newborn King for the gifts and abilities of the participants in all of our Christmas Worship Services.

Thank you to all who enhanced the Christmas Worship Services with the many Christmas trimmings.

May God fill your heart with the true joy of Christmas, the birth of our Savior and Lord, and may the Christ-Child bless you and yours with many Christmas blessings and many peaceful and happy moments!

WELCOME

Welcome to all who have come to worship here today. May the Word of God that we hear be a source of hope and comfort to you. We ask all our visitors to please sign our guest register in the entry hall before leaving. If you are interested in learning more about us or joining us we encourage you to speak with our Pastor.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and in its entirety, in its parts, and in its very words inspired by the Holy Spirit.

We believe that all people are sinners from birth and subject to eternal damnation, but by God’s grace (free gift of love) He established peace between himself and man by sending his Son, Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us, rose again, and ascended into Heaven.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, one with the Father from all eternity, and is our only Savior from sin and eternal damnation. He is the only Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one can be saved except through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

We believe that we receive the free gift of forgiveness not on the basis of any good work, but only through faith in Jesus Christ.

We believe that we become believers by the Holy Spirit who works faith in our hearts through the Gospel in Word and Sacraments. Justifying faith, which makes us right with God, is trust in Christ and his redemptive work and this saving faith is a gift from God to all who believe.

We believe in the Triune God, the one and only true God. God is three persons, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet is not three but one God. Using the power that is His alone, God created the world, the universe and everything in it in six days. All things are under his authority and control.