

December 25, 2022
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CAROL O Come, All Ye Faithful #283 vss 1-3

Verse 1

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!

O come ye,

O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, Born the king of angels.

· ·

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

A mortal he comes; Son of the Father

Now in flesh appearing!

(Refrain)

Verse 3

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest!

Giory to God in the

(Refrain)

Verse 2

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal, Born of a virgin,

** Please stand as you are able **

GREETING & LIGHTING CHRISTMAS & ADVENT CANDLES

Leader: Into the forgotten places,

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the poor, bringing bread,

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the powerful, bringing warning,

Come, Lord Jesus.

All are warmly welcome to join us for a brief time of fellowship and refreshments following today's service in the Fellowship Hall!



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Make a Gift

Your Christmas offering empowers us to share God's love through a variety of vibrant ministries both in our congregation and in our broader neighborhood. If you're worshiping onsite, offering plates will be passed around during the service, or you can leave an offering in the plates located just outside the sanctuary. If you're worshiping online, we invite you to visit the "Give" tab on our website (above) to make a simple and secure gift. Thanks for your generosity!

Join us for Worship

Worship with us on Sundays at 9:30 am onsite or online. Video recordings of all worship services are also available on our website.

Pastoral Care & Prayer

If you're in need of care, prayer, or conversation, Pastor Ali and the Visitation Team would love to connect. Reach out to office@crossofglory.us to schedule a time.

Take Part in our Life Together

From singing in the choir to tutoring local students, community gardening to community meals, the guilting ministry to the prayer ministry, we invite you to take part in God's gift of life together here at Cross of Glory. Check out the "Connect" page of our website to learn more!

Stay Connected - To be added to our email or mailing list to receive monthly newsletters and/or weekly bulletins and sermons, email or call the church office.

Connect with Us

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church 5929 Brooklyn Blvd Brooklyn Center, MN 55429 763-533-8602

Office Hours: Mon-Wed 10-2 Visit our website: http://crossofglory.us Email us: office@crossofglory.us

Follow us on facebook: https://www.facebook.com/crossofglorymn

into the lives of the weary, bringing rest,

Come. Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the wise, bringing restlessness.

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the afraid, bringing good courage,

Come, Lord Jesus.

into the lives of the despairing, bringing hope,

Come, Lord Jesus.

and into all our lives and longings,

Come, Lord Jesus.

The angels proclaimed, the shepherds heard, a mother bore a child, God's love is born.

God's love is born for you and for me. Amen!

Love Has Come #292 vss 1-3 CAROL

Verse 1 See the glow

Love has come in the eyes of his mother;

what is the name —a light in the darkness! Love shines forth her heart is saying?

in the Bethlehem skies. Love! Love!

See, all heaven Love is the name she whispers;

has come to proclaim it;

Hear how their song of joy arises:

Love! Love!

Born unto you, a Savior!

Love! Love!

Glory to God on high.

Verse 2

Love is born!

Come, share in the wonder.

Love is God now asleep in the hay.

Love! Love!

Jesus, Immanuel.

Verse 3

Love has come

And never will leave us!

Love is life everlasting and free.

Love is Jesus within and among us.

Love is the peace

our hearts are seeking.

Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...

God of love and life, you have come to us in the birth of Jesus, moving into the neighborhood, moving into our hearts. Renew us and your whole creation. Be born in us anew – casting out sin, injustice, and despair. In the name of Emmanuel, God with us, we pray. Amen.

CAROL Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #288 vss 1 and 3

Verse 1 Verse 3 Good Christian friends, rejoice Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart and soul and voice: With heart and soul and voice: Give ye heed to what we say: Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save! Jesus Christ is born today; Ox and ass before him bow, Calls you one and calls you all To gain the everlasting hall. And he is in the manger now. Christ was born to save! Christ is born today! Christ is born today! Christ was born to save!

SCRIPTURE READING - Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,

MUSIC CREDITS

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WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik
Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams
Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease
Vocalists: Erik Haugland, Kris Simon,

Keith Williams, Mark Trease

Greeters: Linda Knudsen, Judy Olson

Reader: Gayle Merritt

Ushers: Cheryl Anderson, Don Halverson, Gayle Merritt, Tom Simon Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Dawn

Bailey & Bill Bailey

Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

Please join us in lifting up these brothers and sisters in prayer:

Mavis Wold
Shar Lauster
Norma Gilbertson
Audrey Swanberg
Don and Karen Earnest
Rachel Marguardt

Chet Janasz
Jeannie Kuzmich
Nancy Hengel
Loved ones of Dale Anderson, Lois
Jorpeland, and Shirley Johnson in
their recent passing

To be added or removed from the weekly prayer list, please contact the church office (office@crossofglory.us) or call 763-533-8602.

You are welcome to stop at our community prayer wall just outside the sanctuary to place a written prayer in the wall. Further instructions are at the prayer wall.

^{**} Please be seated **

BLESSING

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the compassion of Joseph, the curiosity of the shepherds, the joy of the angels, and the everlasting peace of Jesus who is Savior, † Christ, and Lord. **Amen.**

CAROL Joy To the World #267 vss 1, 2, 4

Verse 1

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n
and nature sing.

Verse 2

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, While fields and floods, Rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Verse 4

He rules the world
with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders,
wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is born for *you*! Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POEM "Blessing of Hope" Jan Richardson

So may we know,
the hope that is not just for someday
but for this day —
here, now, in this moment
that opens to us:
hope not made of wishes but of substance,
hope made of sinew and muscle and bone,
hope that has breath and a beating heart,
hope that will not keep quiet and be polite,
hope that knows how to holler when it is called for,
hope that knows how to sing when there seems little cause,
hope that raises us from the dead —
not someday but this day,
every day, again and again and again.

^{**} Please stand as you are able **

CAROL Once in Royal David's City #269 vss 1-3

Verse 1

Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

Verse 2

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,

And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall; With the poor and meek and lowly, Lived on earth our Savior holy.

Verse 3

And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own redeeming love; For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav'n above; And he leads his children on To the place where he is gone.

SCRIPTURE READING - Psalm 98

Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,

with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,

the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands,

and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

⁹The LORD will judge the ¹ world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Verse 2

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Verse 4

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast
our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CAROLS

Leader: Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, All: Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung.

Mothering God, you give us birth,
in the bright morning of this world.

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down.

Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

Be near us, Lord Jesus, we ask you to stay close by us forever, and love us we pray.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray, cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, let us pray the prayer that Jesus 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.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

POEM "The Risk of Birth" Madeleine L'Engle

This is no time for a child to be born, With the earth betrayed by war & hate And a comet slashing the sky to warn That time runs out & the sun burns late.

That was no time for a child to be born, In a land in the crushing grip of Rome; Honour & truth were trampled by scorn — Yet here did the Saviour make his home.

When is the time for love to be born? The inn is full on the planet earth, And by a comet the sky is torn — Yet Love still takes the risk of birth.

OFFERING

During today's time of offering, we invite you to give in response to the gifts that God has first given us. If you're worshiping in person, plates will be passed around the sanctuary. If you are worshiping online, you're invited to share your offering via the "Give" page at www.crossofglory.us or scan the QR code with your smart phone camera.



CAROL Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #631 vss 1, 2, 4

Verse 1

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n to earth come down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POEM "Christmas on the Edge" Malcolm Guite

Christmas sets the centre on the edge;
The edge of town, the outhouse of the inn,
The fringe of empire, far from privilege
And power, on the edge and outer spin
Of turning worlds, a margin of small stars
That edge a galaxy itself light years
From some unguessed at cosmic origin.
Christmas sets the centre at the edge.

And from this day our world is re-aligned A tiny seed unfolding in the womb Becomes the source from which we all unfold And flower into being. We are healed, The end begins, the tomb becomes a womb, For now in him all things are re-aligned.

CAROL Angels We Have Heard On High #289 vss 1-3

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Verse 2

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
(Refrain)

Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. (Refrain)

SCRIPTURE READING - Hebrews 1:1-4, 8-10

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. 9You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." ¹⁰And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; 11they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; 12 like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

SPECIAL MUSIC Birthday Gift Erik Haugland & Kris Simon

SCRIPTURE READING - John 1:1-5

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into

being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

CAROL I Am So Glad Each Christmas Morn #271 vss 1, 2, 3, 5

Verse 1

I am so glad each Christmas morn, the day of Jesus' birth! Then like the sun the star shone forth, and angels sang on earth.

Verse 2

The little child in Bethlehem, he is our God indeed! For he came down from heav'n above, To love a world in need.

Verse 3

He dwells with us around the world,
The Son of God today.
And still he loves the little ones,
And hears them when they pray.

Verse 5

And so I love each Christmas morn, And I love Jesus too, And that he loves me ev'ry day, I know so well is true.

SCRIPTURE READING - John 1:6-14

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.