



# Christmas Eve

## PRE-SERVICE CAROLS

### CAROL – LSB 364

#### *“Away In a Manger”*

♪ 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky Looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

♪ 2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

♪ 3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Three there.



**CAROL – LSB 386**

***“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”***

♪ 1. Now sing we, now rejoice,  
Now raise to heav’n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth  
    Poor in a manger lies;  
    Not so brightly beameth  
    The sun in yonder skies.  
    Thou my Savior art!  
    Thou my Savior art!

♪ 2. Come from on high to me;  
    I cannot rise to Thee.  
    Cheer my wearied spirit,  
    O pure and holy Child;  
Through Thy grace and merit,  
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,  
    Draw me unto Thee!  
    Draw me unto Thee!

♪ 3. Now through His Son doth shine  
    The Father’s grace divine.  
Death was reigning o’er us  
    Through sin and vanity  
    Till He opened for us  
    A bright eternity.  
May we praise Him There!  
May we praise Him there!

♪ 4. Oh, where shall joy be found?  
Where but on heav’nly ground?  
    Where the angels singing  
    With all His saints unite,  
Sweetest praises bringing  
In heav’nly joy and light.  
    Oh, that we were there!  
    Oh, that we were there!



**CAROL – LSB 358**

***“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”***

♫ 1. “From heav’n above to earth I come  
To bear good news to ev’ry home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will say and sing:”

♫ 2. “To you this night is born a child  
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
This little child of lowly birth  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.”

♫ 6. “How glad we’ll be to find it so!  
Then with the shepherds let us go  
To see what God for us has done  
In sending us His own dear Son.”

♫ 13. Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,  
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,  
A quiet chamber set apart  
For You to dwell within my heart.

♫ 15. Glory to God in highest heav’n,  
Who unto us His Son has giv’n!  
While angels sing with pious mirth  
A glad new year to all the earth.

**INVOCATION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



## CHRISTMAS INTROIT

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

C: **He was with God in the beginning.**

P: Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

C: **In him was life, and that life was the light of all man.**

P: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not understood it.

C: **He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.**

P: He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

C: **Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, no of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.**

P: 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.



**CAROL – LSB 379**  
***“O Come, All Ye Faithful”***

♪ 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;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

♪ 2. Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

♪ 3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God in the highest:  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

♪ 4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv’n!  
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.



## **OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY**

Isaiah 7:10-14

Again, the LORD spoke to Ahaz, “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.



## **HOLY GOSPEL**

St. Luke 2:1-7

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.



**CAROL – LSB 374**  
***“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”***

♪ 1. Gentle Mary laid her child  
Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, Undefined,  
to the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place,  
Can He be the Savior?  
ask the saved of all the race  
Who have found His favor.

♪ 2. Angels sang about His birth,  
Wise Men sought and found Him;  
Heaven’s star shone brightly forth  
Glory all around Him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,  
Heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night,  
All the hills were ringing.

3. Gentle Mary laid her child  
Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined  
But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth,  
Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth;  
Hail the King of glory!



**HOLY GOSPEL**  
**Luke 2:8-14**

And 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.”



**CAROL – LSB 368**

***“Angels We Have Heard on High”***

♪ 1. Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria - in excelsis Deo  
Gloria - in excelsis Deo.

♪ 2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav’nly song?  
Gloria - in excelsis Deo  
Gloria - in excelsis Deo.

♪ 3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria - in excelsis Deo  
Gloria - in excelsis Deo.





## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**Luke 2:15-20**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

## **CAROL – LSB 361**

***"O Little Town of Bethlehem"***

♫ 1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in the dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light,  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

♫ 2. For Christ is born of Mary,  
And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king  
And peace to all the earth!

♪ 3. How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

♪ 4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born is us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Immanuel!



### CHRISTMAS HOMILY

**Promises! Promises! Jesus Enters Here"**  
*Rev. Kurt Wenzelburger*



### CAROL – LSB 387 **"Joy to the World"**

♪ 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.

♪ 2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods,  
rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

♪ 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.



### **OFFERING**

### **EXPLANATION TO THE 2<sup>nd</sup> ARTICLE** **OF THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.



## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: On this holy night, we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is Immanuel, God with us! And He has promised to be with us and strengthen our faith by giving us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Let us stand and confess our sins to God...You are the source of all joy.

**C: Forgive us for turning to luxury and things for joy.**

P: You are the source of all peace.

**C: Forgive us for trying to find peace and healing in things other than you.**

P: You are the source of all hope.

**C: Forgive us for placing our hope in other places, things and people.**

P: You are the source of all strength.

**C: Forgive us for not trusting in you for all things.**

P: You are the source of all security.

C: **Forgive us for trying to find security in money and the accumulation of wealth.**

P: Lord Jesus, Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today:

C: **and give us this Living Water.**

P: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**



### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen**



***Please be seated...***  
***We join together in the carols of Christmas!***

**CAROL – LSB 380**

***“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”***

♪ 1. Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”

♪ 2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”

♪ 3. Hail, the heav’n born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He Brings,  
Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”



**ANTHEM**  
***“What Child is This?”***  
*Volunteer Choir*



**CAROL – LSB 366**  
***“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”***

♪ 1. It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
” Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
From heav’n’s all gracious king.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

♪ 2. Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav’nly music floats  
O’er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov’ring wing,  
And ever o’er its babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

♪ 3. All you, beneath your heavy load,  
By care and guilt bent low,  
Who toil along a dreary way  
With painful steps and slow:  
Look up, for golden is the hour,  
Come swiftly on the wing,  
The Prince was born to bring you peace;  
Of Him the angels sing.

♪ 4. For lo, the days have come to pass  
By prophets seen of old,  
When down into the circling years  
Came Christ as was foretold.  
His word of peace shall to the earth  
God's ancient promise bring,  
And all who take this gift will hear  
The song the angels sing.



### CHRISTMAS PRAYER

### CHRISTMAS BLESSING



### CAROL – LSB 362 *“Silent Night”*

♪ 1. Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

♪ 2. Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly host sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!



♪ 3. Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

May the Joy of Christmas and the  
Peace of God  
be with you today and  
each day of the coming year!

*Merry Christmas !*