



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church is on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Welcome to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church! Our mission is to proclaim and embody the compassionate, challenging, and inclusive love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. Your age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, doubts and questions are all part of your story as a beloved child of God, and your whole self is welcome and affirmed here.

If you are a first-time visitor, welcome! We hope you will fill out a Welcome Card from your seat and drop it in the offering plate when it comes around - we'd love to get to know you! You are also welcome to communion today.

Live streaming and recording occur at our 10:00 am and 8:00 pm services today. Those who worship online enjoy seeing people in the sanctuary, so if you are comfortable being on camera, please sit in the chairs to the right of the altar or close to the piano.

The assisted listening system in our sanctuary is compatible with personal hearing aids with the setting "T". Portable receivers and headsets are available from an usher.

Children are always welcome in worship. Activities for kids are located on the bookshelf located at the back of the sanctuary. Childcare is also available at the 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 4:00 pm services today in our nursery. The nursery is designed for children ages 4 and younger – follow the overhead sign in the narthex that directs you to the hallway towards the nursery (on the right).

This worship bulletin is intended to be used at all four services today. Please leave it on your seat after the 10:00, 2:00, and 4:00 worship services. We would appreciate it if those attending the 8:00 service would return them to the ushers in the narthex after worship. Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. Feel free to take home the announcements insert for your personal use.

As we begin worship, we invite you to silence your cell phone.



In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

Throughout today's worship, you are invited to participate by joining in speaking the words in bold type.

Prelude	
10.00	

4:00, 8:00

10:00	O Holy Night arranged by Arief Abraham	Arief Abraham, piano
2:00	Various Christmas melodies	Laurie Kallenborn, guitar
	Angels We Have Heard On High	Micah Herman, piano
	Silent Night	Isabelle Tiesel, violin
	lass France Constant	

by Franz Gruber Selections from Christmas Suite for Piano

Pete Isensee, piano

arranged by John Carter

Welcome and Call to Worship

Please stand as you are able.

There is room for you here. If you're weary and worn, or hopeful and patient. If you're tired and lost, or wrapped up in hope.

If you're new to this place, or have been here before. Come in, come in. There is room for you here.

The angels are singing, "Be not afraid."

The angels are singing, "Good news and great joy!"

So come in, come in! There is room for us here. Amen.





Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Loving God,

We have heard this story before - the story of a star in the sky and a baby who was laid in a manger.

We have heard this story before - passed down in hopeful whispers through the generations. So this night, as we lean our hearts and our ears closer to you, we ask that you would make room in our souls to hear this story again.

Make room in us for awe.

Make room in us for wonder.

Make room for heartache and compassion.

Make room in our hearts for you.

Pull us into the narrative, that we might hear the truths in this ancient Word as if it were the first time.

For we know that you are still speaking.

So speak to us again this night - we are listening.

We are already making room.

Amen.

Let's all be seated.

Musical Offering

10:00 I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve arranged by Michael Burkhardt

Chancel Choir Jeff Churchill, oboe

8:00

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski

Spirit Ringers



First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,

as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,

and the bar across their shoulders,

the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors

and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,

a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders;

and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,

and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness

from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God.

And my spirit rejoices in you.



Second Reading Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

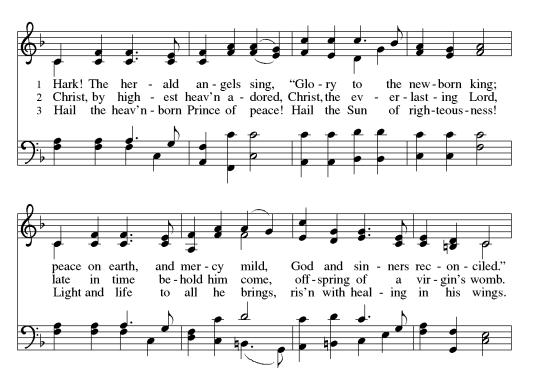
²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God.

And my spirit rejoices in you.

10:00, 4:00, 8:00 Congregational Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing





The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20 Spark Story Bible p. 212

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁴And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God.

And my spirit rejoices in you.

Let's all be seated.

Sermon

10:00, 2:00 Pastor Gina Herman

4:00, 8:00 Pastor Katy McCallum Sachse

Hymn of the Day

Away in a Manger



Creed

Together, let's affirm our trust in God using the words of the creed.

We have faith in God who lives among us.

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek peace and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

Prayers of the People

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves, saying:

Hear us, O God, Your mercy is great.

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **Amen.**



Sharing the Peace

The peace of God be always with you.

And also with you.

Bearing in mind the personal comfort of those around you, please share a friendly sign of God's peace and reconciliation with others and then be seated.

Offertory

10:00	Star of Heaven words and music by Joan Garcia	Chancel Choir
2:00	Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies arranged by John Fraley	Sam Kostopoulos, piano
	Frosty the Snowman arranged by John Fraley	Tim Kostopoulos, piano
	Carol of the Bells song by Mykola Leontovych	Micah Herman, piano
4:00	Never Been a Night Like This! by Lloyd Larson	Mary Schroeder, soprano Pete Isensee, piano
8:00	Away in a Manger arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski	Spirit Ringers

As you are able, please stand.



Offertory Prayer

Emmanuel, you came to us as a child at Christmas, and you come to us still through the love and generosity of all people. Take these signs of your presence – our time, our resources, our hopes, our lives – and join our story with yours, for the sake of your beloved world. **Amen**.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is our right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times, and all places, give thanks....

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus teaches 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.

Let's all be seated.

Communion Distribution

All are welcome to God's meal, where ordinary bread and wine become extraordinary, filled with Christ's presence. Ushers will direct you to one of the stations in front. Communion will be by intinction. You will receive a wafer, which you may dip into the chalice with wine, or with juice, then eat. Wafers in the small bowl on the side of the plate are gluten free. If you avoid gluten, please take one for yourself. If you would prefer not to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, or remain seated. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

When you come to the altar for communion, pick up a candle or a glowstick.

2:00 Music during Distribution

Molly, Zoe, and Audrey Verschuyl

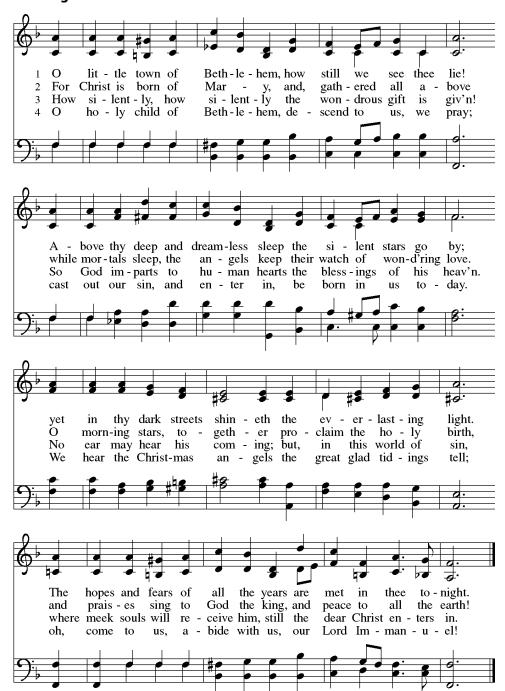
Carol during Distribution

Angels We Have Heard on High



Carol during Distribution

O Little Town of Bethlehem



Carol during Distribution

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve



Prayer after Communion

Please stand as you are able.

God of angel choruses and teenage mothers, there are a million other places we could be, but tonight we wanted to be here. Tonight, we needed to be here—online and in person, worshiping together on this joy-filled Christmas Eve. For when we gather around this Table, we remember the ways that you always make room for us. You are always pulling up chairs, welcoming the children, the tax collectors, and the outcast. At your dinner party, no one gets turned away. Help us to carry that inclusive spirit into the rest of our lives, for we know that love like that is what turns weariness into joy. With grateful hearts we pray,

Amen.

Light your candle or crack your glowstick during the introduction to the carol.

Please tilt your <u>unlit</u> candle to light from your neighbor's <u>lit</u> candle.

The carol will be played through once, then please join in singing.



Benediction

May you be filled with the faithfulness of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the wonder of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child.

And may 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.
In the name of the Creator, Redeemer +, and Sustainer, one God.

Amen.

Please extinguish your candle.

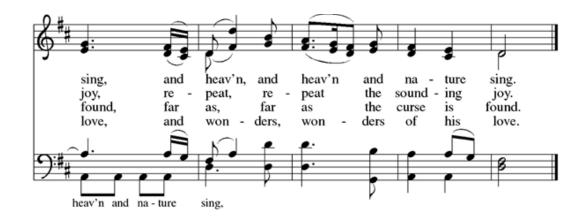




Sending Hymn

Joy to the World!





Dismissal

Go rejoicing! Share the love of the newborn Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

10:00	O Holy Night arranged by Arief Abraham	Arief Abraham, piano
2:00	Joy to the World	Noel Christmas, guitar Phillip Tiesel, guitar
4:00, 8:00	<i>Joy to the World</i> arranged by David Lanz	Pete Isensee, piano

Please drop off your candles onto the tables as you exit the building.
Glowsticks can go home with you!

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Joy to the World. Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: ANTIOCH, English Melody, 18th century; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872. Public Domain.



Thank you to our worship assistants!

SERVING TODAY – December 24				
	10:00	2:00	4:00	8:00
ACOLYTES	Alex Doll	Sophie Tiesel Collins Christmas	Aiden Stewart	Jonah Lynn
ASSISTING MINISTER	Leah Wouters	Melissa Tiesel	Dennis Pierce	Jennifer Williams
GREETERS	Ron Nitz	Sandra Deegan John Baisch	Sharon Clum	Christopher Cole Eric and Naomi Lynn
USHERS	Chris and Debbie Halvorson	Ron Nitz Rosemary Dunkle	Judy Meyer Donna Morris	Jeff and Kristin Reeder
A/V TECHNICIAN	Danielle Dadashi	Becky Cole	Heath Stewart	Zander Cole
COMMUNION SET UP/ CLEAN UP	Martha Krug	n/a	Diane Lynch	Kristin Reeder

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – December 31		
	10:00	
ACOLYTES	n/a	
ASSISTING MINISTER	Jacquie Brissey	
GREETERS	Ron Nitz	
USHERS	Eric Henrikson Donna Morris	
COMMUNION SET UP/ CLEAN UP	Teresa Henrikson	