

THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATION: John 1:1-14

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

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.

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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CAROL: *Silent Night, Holy Night!* (ELW 281)

BLESSING: May God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

The candles are extinguished.

SENDING CAROL: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* (ELW 270)

DISMISSAL:

Glory to God in the highest!

Peace to God’s people on earth!

As Heralds of God’s peace, go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24th, 2018 - 7:00 pm

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

Assisting This Evening:

Readers: Arlene Moonsammy Marla de Graff, Krista Quenneville

Assistants: Norm Richter, Jann Thulien and Rochelle Piske

Piano/Organ/Choir Director: David Santry

Pastor: Rev Martin Malina

Honorary Assistant Pastor: Diane Raddatz

Thank you to all who decorated our worship space for the Christmas services.

The poinsettias on the altar are offered by Kylie and Cameron Niman in memory of their grandmother, Ethel Niman.

The Christmas tree is donated by the Quast family.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

43 Meadowlands Drive West, Ottawa K2G 2R5 613-224-1971

www.faithottawa.ca | @faithottawa | FaithOttawaLutheran

Pastor: Martin Malina pastormartin@faithottawa.ca

Office: secretary@faithottawa.ca

CHOIR PRELUDE: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

PROCESSION OF THE FAITHFUL: *The gifts of children, animals, story and song on one “Silent Night”.*

PUPPET SKIT: *A True Christmas Cheer*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy.

To us is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth!

CHOIR ANTHEM: *Glory Be to God for Christmas* (by Rob Woboditsch, arr. David Santry & Richard Yin)

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray. **Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here**

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on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CAROL: *Angels We Have Heard on High* (ELW 289)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7 A reading from Isaiah.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Titus 3:4-7 A reading from Titus.

⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,

⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *Joy to the Word!* (ELW 267)

GOSPEL: Luke 2:15-20

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

CAROL: *What Child is This?* (ELW 296)

PRAYERS OF PETITION: Hear us O God. Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

CAROL: *In the Bleak Midwinter* (ELW 294)

OFFERING PRAYER: Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEAL:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*To the tune of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heav'n and earth adored.

O how blest is he who comes. In the holy name of God.

Joyful, all you nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies;

With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!" Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father in heaven ...

COMMUNION CAROLS:

Twos in the Moon of Wintertime (ELW 284)

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (ELW 282)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Let us pray. Gracious God, in the incarnation of your Son you have united earth and heaven. May we who have tasted heavenly things share the gift of your presence with all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Pastor will light a candle from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks. Ushers or assistants will light their candles from the Pastor's candle and then light the candle of worshipers nearest the aisle. Please do not tilt the lighted candles. Always hold the candles upright when giving light to each other.