

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024

"In response to God's love, St. Matthew's is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone."

Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you and we wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas. Tonight's **hymns** are located in the cranberry coloured hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship).

GATHERING

"A stable lamp is lighted whose glow shall wake the sky; the stars shall bend their voices and every stone shall cry. And every stone shall cry, and straw like gold shall shine; a barn shall harbour heaven, a stall become a shrine.

A Christmas hymn, Richard Wilbur 1921-2017 (All Creation Sings#910)

Hymn ELW# 283 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Prayer of the Day

WORD

Hymn #276 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96 verses 1-3(all read portions in bold print)

Leader: 1 O sing to the Lord a new song;

 sing to the Lord, all the earth.

2 Sing to the Lord; bless his name;

tell of his salvation from day to day.

Leader:3 Declare his glory among the nations,

 his marvellous works among all the peoples.

Hymn Joy to the World #267 verses 1-2

(public domain)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Saviour 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.

Psalm 96:4-13

Leader: 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

**5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.**

Leader:6 Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

**7 Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

LeaderL 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.

**9 Worship the Lord in holy splendour;
tremble before him, all the earth.**

Leader 10 Say among the nations, "The Lord is king!
The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.
He will judge the peoples with equity."

**11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar and all that fills it;**

Leader: 12 let the field exult and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

**13 before the Lord, for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.**

**He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with his truth.**

Hymn Joy to the World #267 verses 3-4

*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.*

*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, and wonders, of his love.*

Second Reading Titus 2:11-14

Gospel Luke 2:1-20

Sermon

Hymn #275 Angels from the Realms of Glory

The Nicene Creed page 104

Prayers of Intercession

Peace (non-contact gestures)

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord Be with you

All: And also with you

Presider: lift up your hearts

All: we lift them to the Lord

Presider: let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: it is right to give our thanks and praise

Presider: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

*Presider concludes...."And so, with all the choirs
of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of
heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn"*

All Sing: **Holy, Holy-**

(tune: Angels we have heard on High).

Holy, Holy, Lord of All

Praises sung from heav'n and earth

Ancient Promise you recall,

on this night, a Saviour's birth

Glo—ria In excelsis deo,

Glo-ria In excelsis deo

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Communion

Prayer after Communion

Sanctuary candles are lit

SENDING

Sending Song **#281 *Silent Night, Holy Night!***

Blessing

Dismissal: Christ the Saviour is born! Go in peace.

Proclaim this good news.

All: Thanks be to God