

Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve Worship

Welcome to Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

We're glad you are worshipping God with us!

PASTORAL STAFF

Rob Carlson, Interim Senior Pastor

Lindsey Bina

Peter Harrits

Julie Wright

VISITATION PASTOR

Linda Lund

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, 5:00 pm

Sunday, 8:30 & 9:45 am—

Organ/Piano-Led Worship with
Communion served on first and
third weekends.

Sunday, 11:00 am—Band-Led

Worship with Communion

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Deacon Mark Ertl, Director of
Worship & Music

LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S

BULLETINS

Large print and children's bulletins
are available from the ushers.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

Personal hearing assistance
headphones can be obtained at the
production booth.

SOTV PROGRAM MINISTRIES

The website lists activities, classes,
worship times, and special events
(www.sotv.org). Please call the
church office (952.432.6351) for more
information or stop at the Welcome
Center.



Shepherd of the Valley is a member
congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America

Some liturgy adapted from text by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
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Gathering

Because of the holiness of this night, we ask that you do not applaud for the musical selections during the service.

Prelude

1:00/2:30 Sounds of Praise, “Angels We Have Heard (Glory Be)”—arr. Cliff Duren
4:00/5:30 Senior Choir, “Angels We Have Heard on High”—arr. Dan Forrest

Word of Welcome

The assembly stands.

Gathering Song

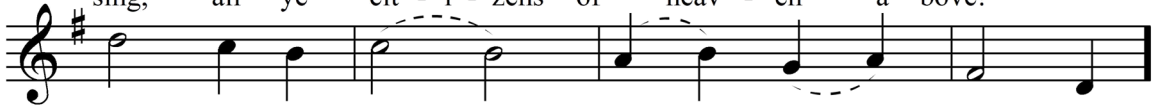
ELW #283 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a bove!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Glo - ry to God _____ in _____ the _____ high - est.



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, _____ Christ _____ the Lord!

Invocation

On this holy night, we worship in the name of the Father,
and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.*

***Bold:** All

Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

An unmarried teenage girl was invited—

to carry Christ into this world.

An ordinary carpenter was invited—

to be a father to a child unlike any other.

The shepherds were invited—

outcast and isolated, included at the manger.

The Magi were invited—

foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.

And if she was invited, and he was invited, and they were invited—

then we can trust that we too are invited.

This story is for us.

This love is for us.

Family of faith, this is our invitation. Welcome home.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light.

Grant that here 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.

The assembly is seated.

Special Music (1:00-5:30)

1:00/2:30 Sounds of Praise, "Son of God"—Hamilton, Smith, & Wood/arr. Mauldin

4:00/5:30 Senior Choir, "The First Noel"—arr. Dan Forrest

Word

First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You 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. For 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For 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. His 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

ELW #279 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”



1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2. For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of _ won-d'ring love.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

A reading from Titus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music

- 1:00 Lydia & Merilu Narum, “Star of Wonder”—Greg Gilpin
- 2:30 Summer Bielke, “The First Noel (Born Is the King)”—L. Hudson & M. Willerton
- 4:00 Chris & Johanna Hanssen, “Forever Christmas”—J. Bolin & D. Koch
- 5:30 Susan Boeshart, “Emmanuel”—Hannah Kerr
- 7:00 David Elliott, “A Child Is Born”—T. Jones & A. Wilder
- 8:30 Summer Bielke, “The First Noel (Born Is the King)”—L. Hudson & M. Willerton

Gospel

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

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

When 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.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The 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.

Response to Gospel

ELW #289 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

**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.**

The assembly is seated.

Good News for Kids (1:00/2:30/4:00/5:30)

Sermon

The assembly stands.

Hymn

ELW #270 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, — "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that we no more may die, —



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!"
born to raise each child of earth, born to — give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry — to the new - born king!"

Thanksgiving

Offering

The assembly is seated.

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

- Visit sotv.org/give or scan the QR code.
- Text: "SOTV" to 73256.
- Place an offering or giving card in the plate during worship or in the black kiosk in the Narthex.



- 1:00/4:00 Men's Quartet, "Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"—arr. Lloyd Larson
2:30 Jessica Kostner & Kevin Casey, "Behold the Lamb of God"—Peterson & Story
5:30 David Elliott, "A Child Is Born"—T. Jones & A. Wilder
7:00 Jessica Fedje, "Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)"—Amy Grant
8:30 Anthony Titus, "Sonata No. I, Mov. II: Andante"—Carlo Guastavino

Meal (7:00 and 8:30)

Tonight we celebrate God's grace as it comes to us in the Lord's Supper. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, inclusive of age, understanding, and background. Come forward and extend an open hand to request the bread, and take a glass from the tray. If you would like a gluten-free communion wafer, please request one from the person distributing the wafers. Glasses of white grape juice are in the center of every communion tray. You may also come forward for a blessing.

Words of Institution

ELW p. 108

The Lord's Prayer

ELW p. 112

Music at Distribution

“Away in a Manger”

ELW #277

“What Child Is This”

ELW #296

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

ELW #282

The Prayers

The assembly stands.

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Candle Lighting

For reasons of safety, candles this evening will be given to high school students and adults only.
Never tip a lit candle. Tip the unlit candle to light from a lit candle.

Hymn

ELW #281 "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - dient beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace, _____ sleep in heav - en - ly peace. _____
born! _____ Christ, the Sav - ior is born! _____
birth, _____ Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth. _____

Sending

Blessing

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon you, now and forever.

Amen.

The candles are extinguished.

As you extinguish your candle, hold it upright until the wax cools and hardens.

Return your candles to the ushers as you leave.

Sending Song

ELW #267 “Joy to the World”

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
ceive her king; let ev' - ry heart pre - pare him
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -
room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Leading Worship Today

Preacher

Pastor Rob Carlson

Liturgist

Pastor Peter Harrits (1:00, 2:30)

Pastor Lindsey Bina (4:00, 5:30)

Pastor Julie Wright (7:00, 8:30)

Organist/Pianist

Deacon Mark Ertl (1:00, 2:30, 4:00)

Director of Worship and Music

Jim Jordan (5:30, 7:00, 8:30)

Associate Organist

Director of Brass Ensemble

Lectors

Paula Swiggum (1:00)

Kris Ehresmann Moyer (2:30)

Bruce Feld (4:00)

Steve Genrich (5:30)

Jim Fedje (7:00)

Jessica Rapp (8:30)

Good News for Kids

Rose Bentley (1:00)

Youth Ministry Director

Christa DeVries (2:30)

Children's Ministry Director

Kelsey Young (4:00/5:30)

Director of CYF Ministry

Special thanks to all of the musicians who have shared their talents to enhance our worship experience on this holy night.

Chancel flowers are given in memory of Shawn Ferber by Dan & Susan Ferber.

Year-End Giving

SOTV will be closing **at 3:00 pm on** Tuesday, December 31, 2024. All gifts must be received by the church or postmarked **on or before** December 31, 2024. Any gifts received or postmarked **after** December 31, 2024 will be considered a 2025 donation. Online giving is available until midnight, December 31.

Note our office is closed:

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

For current giving information:

Contact Dawn Della Paolera at

952.985.7315 or finance@sotv.org.



THANK YOU!

Our thanks to the several hundred people who have given of their time, abilities, and talents to make our Christmas worship possible and meaningful: ushers, lectors, altar service, musicians, greeters, communion assistants, and the volunteers who decorated the church both inside and out.

The pastors and staff of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church wish you a blessed Christmas and safe holiday travels.



WORSHIP

SOTV HAS TWO STYLES OF WORSHIP: ORGAN/PIANO-LED AND BAND-LED.

Each includes an inspiring message, prayer, and great music.

- Children's activity bags Family Supported Worship Space available
- Livestream 9:45 am service at sotv.org/livestream

SOTV.ORG/WORSHIP



LEARN

GROWING IN FAITH THROUGH CURIOSITY.

- Classes and events for preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, and adults.
- Bible studies, book discussions, classes, and more.

SOTV.ORG/LEARN



CONNECT

CONNECTING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE AND OUTREACH.

Find meaningful Christian community through a variety of opportunities.

SOTV.ORG/GROUPS
SOTV.ORG/SERVE



CARE

WE CARE FOR YOU.

We support people in all seasons of life through prayer, pastoral visits, and a variety of support groups.

SOTV.ORG/WE-CARE

Main office: 952.432.6351

Children, Youth, & Family office: 952.432.6385

Office hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Road, Apple Valley, MN 55124

Welcome Home! Gathered. Loved. Sent.

Worship Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 pm Organ/Piano-led

Sunday: 8:30 & 9:45 am Organ/Piano-led

Sunday: 11:00 am Band-led

Livestreaming is available.

View this weekend & past services at
sotv.org/livestream.

Connect with us!

Visit the Welcome Center to pick up a News for the Flock catalog and Woven Words stories publication. Join us on any of the following platforms to keep informed about the happenings at SOTV.

 www.sotv.org

 [Facebook/SOTVorg](https://www.facebook.com/SOTVorg)

 [@shepherdofthevalleyav](https://www.instagram.com/shepherdofthevalleyav)

 [Vimeo.com/SOTV](https://vimeo.com/SOTV)

 [Soundcloud.com/shepherd-of-the-valley](https://www.soundcloud.com/shepherd-of-the-valley)

 onrealm.org/sotv



Available during worship. Ask an usher for assistance.