

# Concordia Lutheran Church

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Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2025



**OPENING HYMN** - 123, "From Heaven Above," verses 1-6, 15\* *Please Stand*

### **EXHORTATION**

(Pastor) Dear friends in Christ! We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to give Him thanks and praise for the gift of His Son, our meek and righteous King, who, by His death became our Savior from sin and eternal death. By His Holy Spirit may He enlighten, govern, and direct us, that we may ever remain faithful to this righteous King and Savior, and not be offended by His humble form and despised Word, but, firmly believing in Him, obtain eternal salvation and the fullness of joy in heaven. To this end may God the Father grant us His grace, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**(All) Amen.**

### **VERSICLES & GLORIA PATRI**



Daughter of Zion, surely your salvation *'is coming.*/ Rejoice, Daughter of *'Jerusalem!*

**The Lord will cause His glorious *'voice to be heard,*/ and you shall have *'gladness of heart.***

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Jo<sup>'</sup>seph like a flock./ Stir up Your strength and *'come and save us!*

**Unto us a Child is born, unto us a *'Son is given.*/ Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done *'marvelous things!***

**Glory be to the Father *'and to the Son / and to *'the Holy Ghost.****

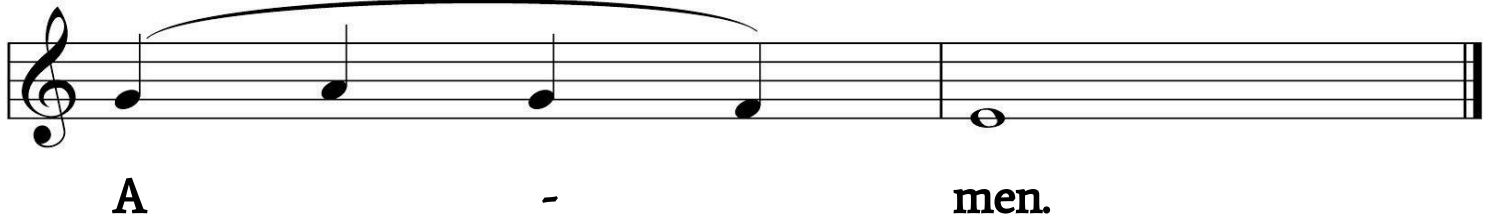
**As it was in the be<sup>'</sup>ginning, is now / and ever shall be, forever<sup>'</sup>more.**

**Amen.**

## PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Let us pray:

O God, as You once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant, we pray You, that we who have known the mysteries of that Light here on earth may come to the fullness of Its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.



## OLD TESTAMENT - Micah 5:2-5

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.<sup>(ESV)</sup>

## HYMN - 137, "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

## EPISTLE - 1 John 4:7-16

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

*Continued on next page*

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.<sup>(ESV)</sup>

**HYMN** - 115, "All My Heart Sings and Rejoices," verses 1-3, 8

**CHRISTMAS GOSPEL**- Luke 2:1-20

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.<sup>(KJV)</sup>

## **APOSTLE’S CREED**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,**

**Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ,**

**His only Son, our Lord;**

**Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified,**

**died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead;**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;**

**From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church,**

**the Communion of Saints,**

**the Forgiveness of sins,**

**the Resurrection of the body,**

**and the Life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

# HYMN - 125, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

## SERMON

### OFFERING & CHOIR ANTHEM - "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

*If you are visiting today, please do not feel obligated to give. If you prefer, you can give through our website, [concordiaeauclaire.com/online-giving](http://concordiaeauclaire.com/online-giving)*

*Following the offering the sanctuary lights are dimmed, and the congregation is invited to turn on their candlelights*

## HYMN - 140, "Silent Night"

### LORD'S PRAYER



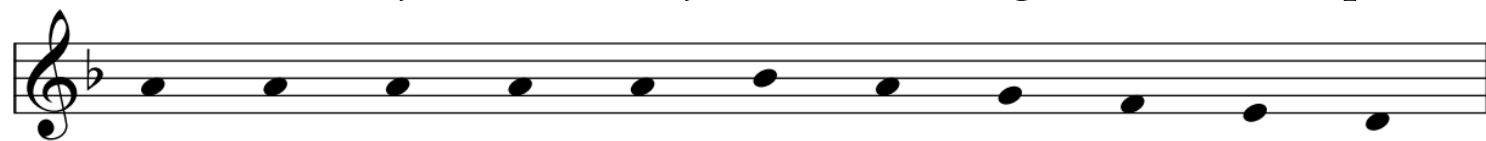
Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name



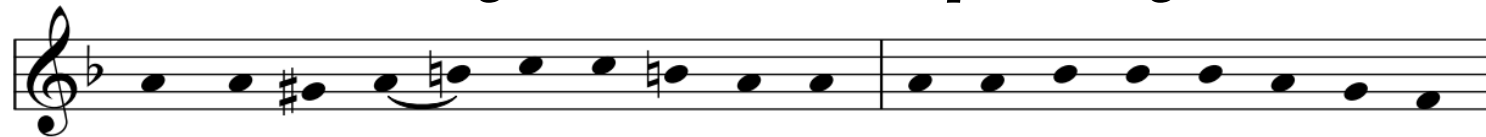
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.



Give us this day our dai - ly bread; And forgive us our trespasses,



As we for - give those who trespass against us;



And lead us not into temptation, But de - li - ver us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king - dom and the power  
and the glo - ry for - e - ver and e - ver.  
A - - - - - men.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks to You that of Your mercy You caused Your Son to become incarnate, and through Him redeemed us from sin and everlasting death: We beseech You, enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever be thankful for such grace, and be comforted by it in all tribulation and temptation, and at last obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

A - - - - - men.

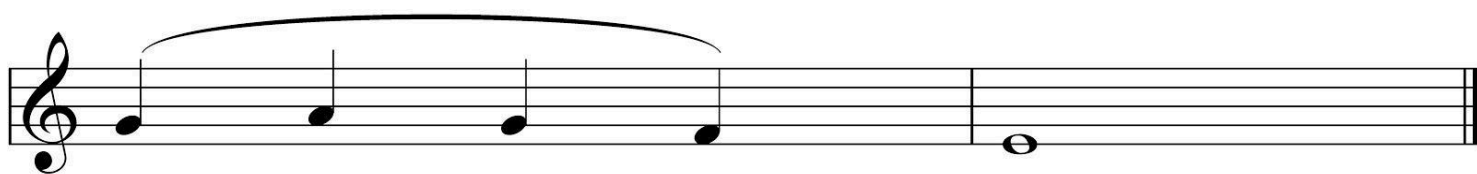
**BENEDICAMUS**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit ☩ be with you all.



A

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men.

## HYMN - 138, "Joy to the World"

☩      ☩      ☩      **Depart in Peace**      ☩      ☩      ☩

*Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, please sign our guest book before you leave, and please join us again.*