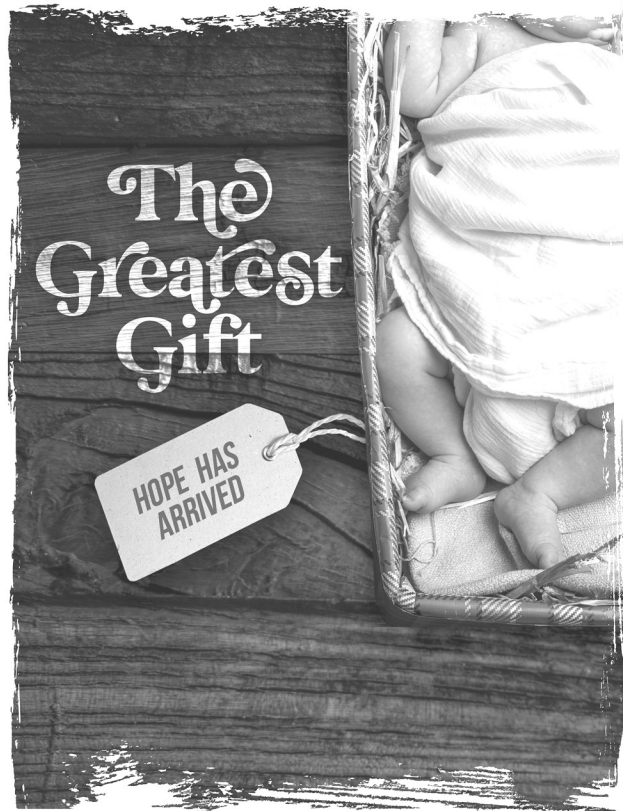


**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**AT**  
**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**NORTH SAINT PAUL & HUGO, MINNESOTA**



**DECEMBER 24, 2020**  
*Hugo*

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Hugo Christmas Eve	5pm & 7pm
North St. Paul Caroling by Firelight (Playground area)	8:30 p.m
North St. Paul Christmas Eve	6pm & 10pm
North St. Paul Christmas Day	9am & 11 am

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Matt Hennig
Piano	Hannah Neumann
Song Leader & "O Holy Night"	Emma Sveum
"On a Starlit Night"	The Christmas Choir directed by Dan Baumeister (5pm)
Select Hymns	Bill Baumeister, Dan Baumeister, Bob Baumeister and Paula Baumeister (5pm)

*Thank you to all those who gave of their time and talents  
to beautify our worship tonight and in so doing gave glory to God.*

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*The lights will be dimmed as the candles of the Advent wreath are lit and as we focus our  
attention on Jesus, the light of the world!*

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# ORDER OF SERVICE

## GOSPEL

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**W**hen Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

## GATHERING SONG

Lead Us to Your Light  
by Carol Browning

*The cantor will introduce the refrain; the congregation joins in singing it a second time and thereafter as indicated.*

**Refrain:**

Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark-ness.  
Lead us to your light. Come, Je - sus, come.

*Cantor:* Rouse us from sleep, wake us from our slumber, banish the darkness of night.

**All:** Refrain

*Cantor:* Child of the light and love beyond all telling, fill our hearts with wonder and praise.

**All:** Refrain

*Cantor:* Lord, you are hope and healing for our world; come, now, and bring us your good news.

**All:** Refrain

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Then all join in singing the refrain twice.



Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark-ness.

Lead us to your light. Come, Je - sus, come.

## THE WORD OF THE LORD

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*The Holy Spirit inspires the Prophet Isaiah to foretell the arrival of Jesus, the light of the world.*

Isaiah 9 : 2-7

**T**he people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the days of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

# JOY TO THE WORLD

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*The congregation is invited to join with the song leader in singing both stanzas.*

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let  
earth receive her King; Let ev - 'ry  
heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and  
na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And  
heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The melody is simple and joyful, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are: "1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing." The score ends with a double bar line.

4 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, wonders, of His love.

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*God's grace in Christ Jesus has appeared and offers salvation to all. This grace changes us both in this life and for the life to come.*

Titus 2 : 11 - 14

**F**or the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## THE GOSPEL READING

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*Luke records the miraculous account of our  
Savior's birth.* Luke 2

**Pastor:** **I**n those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

**Women:** While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

**Pastor:** And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

**Men:** "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

**All:** Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."



## To Shepherds as they Watched by Night

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*The choir will sing stanza 1 and the congregation is invited to join in singing the remaining stanzas.*



1 To shep - herds as they watched by night Ap - peared  
2 "At Beth - le - hem, in Da - vid's town, As Mi -  
3 Oh, then re - joi - ce that through his Son God is  
4 What harm can sin and death then do? The true



a host of an - gels bright; "Be - hold the ten - der  
cah did of old make known. It is the Christ, your  
with sin - ners now at one; Made like your - selves of  
God now a - bides with you. Let hell and Sa - tan



babe," they said, "In yon - der low - ly man - ger laid,  
Lord and King, Who will to all sal - va - tion bring."  
flesh and blood, Your broth - er is th' e - ter - nal God.  
storm and rave, Christ is your broth - er— you are safe.

6 You shall and must at last prevail.  
God's own you are; you cannot fail.  
To God forever sing your praise  
With joy and patience all your days.

## THE GOSPEL READING

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**W**hen the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

# O Holy Night

*Sung by Emma Sveum*

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## Verse 1

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
Till He appears and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!

## Verse 2

Truly He taught us to love one another,  
His law is love and His Gospel is Peace  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother  
And in His name, all oppression shall cease  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we  
Let all within us Praise His Holy name  
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!  
His power and glory evermore proclaim  
His power and glory evermore proclaim

## MESSAGE

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## STATEMENT OF FAITH

*Based on Luther's explanation of the Second Article*

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*The congregation stands.*

**All:** I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary.

**Pastor:** What does this mean?

**All:** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

**Pastor:** Why did Jesus, God's own Son, become one of us? Why did he enter this world and what did he do while he was here on earth?

**All:** He 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 will come to judge the living and the dead.

**Pastor:** What does this mean for you and for me?

**All:** He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

**Pastor:** What does this good news motivate us to do in our lives?

**All:** All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

**This is most certainly true.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

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**THE OFFERING** *will be received in back.*

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# WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

The congregation is invited to join with the song leader in singing this song.



1 What child is this who, laid to rest,  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;



On Mar - y's lap is sleep - - ing?  
 Where ox - en now are feed - - ing?  
 Come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet With an - thems sweet  
 Good Chris - tians, fear; For sin - ners here  
 The King of kings Sal - va - tion brings;



While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 The si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whom  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through; The  
 Raise, raise the song on high; The



shep - herds guard and an - gels sing.  
 cross he'll bear for me, for you.  
 vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born,



The babe, the Son of Mar - y!  
 The babe, the Son of Mar - y!  
 The babe, the Son of Mar - y!

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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P: Oh gracious and almighty Father, we praise you that you kept your ancient promises by sending your everlasting Son in human flesh.

C: **On this holy night, receive our thanks and devotion, our songs and prayers.**

P: You sent Jesus as a lowly child to demonstrate your concern for all, the weak and lonely, the troubled and frightened, the timid and helpless. No one is overlooked by you. No one is denied the comfort and help of your outstretched hand.

C: **Bless us with a childlike faith in the divine assurance that you love and care for us always.**

P: You sent Jesus as the Savior of the world to deliver us from the curse of sin and the power of death. He came to die and rise again in order that we might live eternally. Firmly implant this good news in our hearts and fill us with an eager desire to share this good news with others.

C: **For today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to us. He is Christ, the Lord. Amen!**

P: And together we join in praying the prayer Jesus has taught us,

All: **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.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

*The service began in darkness and will close in darkness.*

## SILENT NIGHT

*Sung by the congregation.*

*Please note that during the singing of stanza 1, the choir will be singing "On a Starlit Night"*



1 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is  
2 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds  
3 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of

calm, all is bright, Round yon vir - gin  
quake at the sight. Glo - ries stream from  
God, love's pure light Ra - diant beams from

moth - er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so  
heav - en a - far; Heav'n - ly hosts sing,  
thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re -

ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly  
Al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
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.



*God bless your Christmas celebrations!*