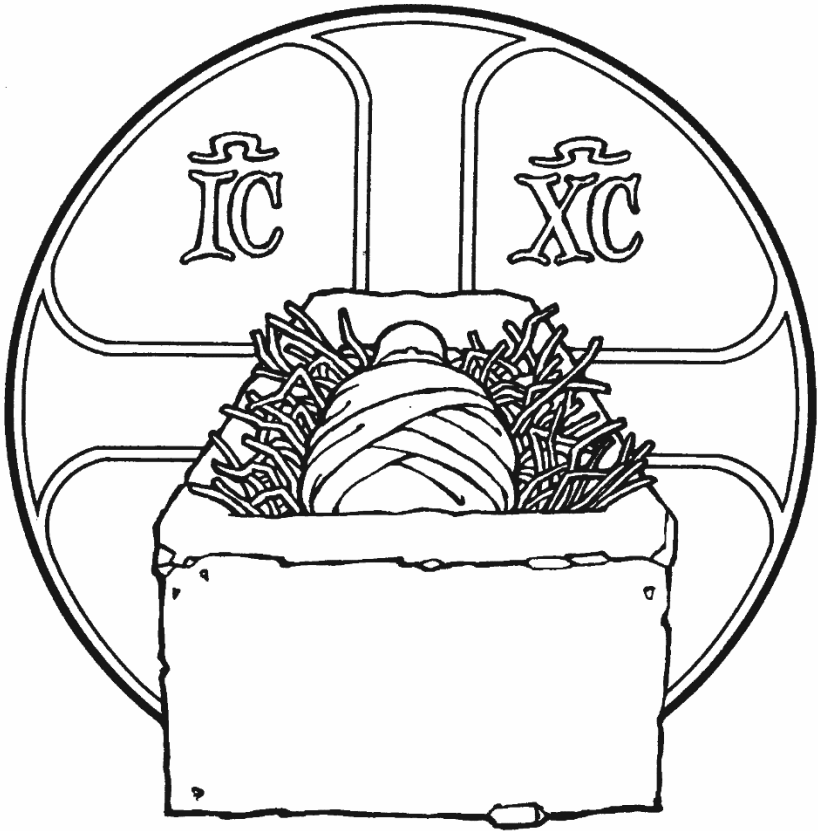


Jesus Christ -



The Bread of Life

Zion Lutheran Church and School
Kearney, NE
December 24, 2022

Jesus Christ – The Bread of Life

Children's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Arranged by Pr. James H. DeLoach

Pre-Service Music

Carol of the Bells - Miriam Gaunt

The First Noel - Grace Burger

*Please stand and sing as the children process into the sanctuary,
and remain standing for the beginning of the service.*

↑ Hymn #379

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

All: O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come___ ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him | Born the king of angels:

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

All: Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father | Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain:**

All: Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God___ | In___ the___ highest: **Refrain:**

All: Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee___ be___ glory giv'n!
Word of the Father | Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain:**

↑ The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (+) and the Holy Spirit.
C: AMEN.

P: Unto us the Christ is born:
C: Oh, come, let us worship Him!

P: Tonight we will hear the story of our Savior's birth. Jesus calls Himself the Bread of Life. We will hear how the Old Testament foreshadows our Lord, using the image of bread. Then we will rejoice in how those signs have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

C: Jesus Christ is the Bread of Life. Anyone who believes in Him will live forever!

"The Bread of Life" Chorus

P: *Why was Jesus in a manger on this holy night?*

Students: A manger is a feeding trough and He's the Bread of Life. Jesus said: "I am the living bread from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever" (John 6:51a).

Hymn 332 (vs. 1, 6, & 7): "Savior of the Nations, Come"

**All: Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.**

**All: For You are the Father's Son, Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole | All our ills of flesh and soul.**

**All: From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.**

I. The Bread of Life Foreshadowed

Narration – Exodus 16

"The Bread of Life" Chorus

Hymn #621 (vs. 1 & 2) "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent"

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand.
Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in His hand.
Christ our God to earth descending, Comes our homage to demand.**

King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth He stood.
Lord of lords in human vesture, In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful | His own self for heavenly food.

Narration – 1 Kings 17

Hymn #389 (vs. 1-3) “Let All Together Praise Our God”

Let all together praise our God | Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav’n again | To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.

He leaves His heav’nly Father’s throne | Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone, | Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.

Within an earthborn form He hides | His all-creating light;
To serve us all He humbly cloaks | The splendor of His might
The splendor of His might

II. Bethlehem, the “House of Bread”

Narration – Micah 5

“The Bread of Life” Chorus

Hymn # 361 (vs. 1-2, 4): “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Students: O little town of Bethlehem | How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep And dreamless sleep | The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark steets shineth | The everlasting Light,
The hopes and fears of all the years | Are met in thee tonight.

All: For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of won-d’ring love.
O morning stars, together | Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God, the King | And peace to all the earth!

All: O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels | The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us, | Our Lord Immanuel!

III. Jesus' Birth Foretold to Mary

Narration – St. Luke 1:26–35

Hymn # 356 “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

Soloist: The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
“All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

All: “For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

Soloist: Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.”
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

All: Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
Most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

IV. The Birth of Jesus Foretold to Joseph

Narration – St. Matthew 1:18-25

The Offering

“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt”

- Adult Choir

Congregation sings last verse

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

SATB, Keyboard, Optional Congregation, Organ

Jaroslav J. Vajda

Joseph Herl

Choir

- 1 Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
but there is room and welcome there for me,
and welcome there for me.
- 2 In that unlikely place I find Him as they said:
sweet newborn babe, how frail! and in a manger bed:
a still, small voice to cry one day for me,
to cry one day for me.
- 3 How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
his prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
the Prince of Peace for me.



Congregation: 4 Can I, will I for - get how Love was



born, and burned its way in - to my heart— un-



asked, un - forced, un - earned, to die, to live, and



not a - lone for me, and not a - lone for me?

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V. Jesus' Birth Announced to the Shepherds

Responsive Anthem: "Little Children, Can You Tell"

Upper Grades: Little Children, can you tell,
Do you know the story well, | Ev'ry girl and ev'ry boy,
Why the angels sing for joy | On this Christmas evening?

Lower Grades: Yes, we know the story well;
Listen now, and hear us tell, | Ev'ry girl and ev'ry boy,
Why the angels sing for joy | On this Christmas evening.

Narration – St. Luke 2:1-7

"The Bread of Life" Chorus

Hymn # 364:

"Away in the Manger"

Lower Grades: Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky___ looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

All Grades: The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

All Sing: Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And take us to heaven to live with thee there.

Narration – St. Luke 2:8-11

Hymn # 368 (All sing vs. 1-2) "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.
Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o. Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o.

Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o. Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o.

“The Bread of Life” Chorus

Hymn # 374 (vs. 1 & 3) “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

All Grades: Gentle Mary laid her child | Lowly in a manger;
There he lay, the Undefined | To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, | Can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race | Who have found his favor.

ALL: Gentle Mary laid her child | Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined | But no more a stanger.
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!

Narration – St. Luke 2:13-14

Hymn # 380 (All sing) “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Hail, the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

Narration – St. Luke 2:15-16

“The Bread of Life” Chorus

“In A Little Stable”

- Lower Grades

In a little stable far across the sea
Was a little Baby much like you and me.

Not a bed or cradle, not a pillow deep,
But a lowly manger was His place to sleep.

Oh, I love this Jesus, who was little then,
For He surely loves me, little though I am.

The Sermon

Narration – St. Luke 2:17-18

The Candlelight Service

*As we sing “Go Tell It on the Mountain” the ushers will light the candles. **Never tip the lit candle.** Rather tilt the tip of the unlit candle to the flame to light your candle.*

Hymn #388

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Refrain: **Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev’rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain | That Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching | O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens | There shone a holy light.**

Refrain...

**The shepherds feared and trembled | When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus | That hailed our Savior’s birth.**

Refrain...

**Down in a lonely manger | The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation | That blessed Christmas morn.**

Refrain...

Narration – St. Luke 2:19

Hymn # 363

“Silent Night”

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

All: Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

All: Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy Birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy Birth.

Narration – St. Luke 2:20

Hymn # 393

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Students: Infant holy, infant lowly, | For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing | Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing | Bells are ringing, tidings bringing
Christ the child is Lord of all! | Christ the child is Lord of all!

All: Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of the Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

The Prayer for Christmas Eve

P: O God, because you once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant that we who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full measure of its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Please extinguish your candle and give it to the usher as you depart.

Recessional Hymn # 387:

“Joy to the World”

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! | Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room | And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! | Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, & plains,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**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, wonders of His love.**

Serving this Evening

Organist: Teresa Leising

Pianist: Carol DeLoach

Elder: Nathan Gaunt

Ushers: Usher Captains

Acolyte: Abigail Burger

Crucifer: Grady Fisher

Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal and Shirley Helmbrecht

Engineer: Jamie Nikodym

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- ❖ ***Parents: After the service the students will gather with their teachers in the Fellowship Hall, where they will remain until you pick them up. Thank you.***
  
- ❖ ***Join us tomorrow at 10AM for our Christmas Day Festival Service!***
  
- ❖ ***For more information about Zion Lutheran Church please visit us at [www.zion Kearney.com](http://www.zion Kearney.com)***