

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

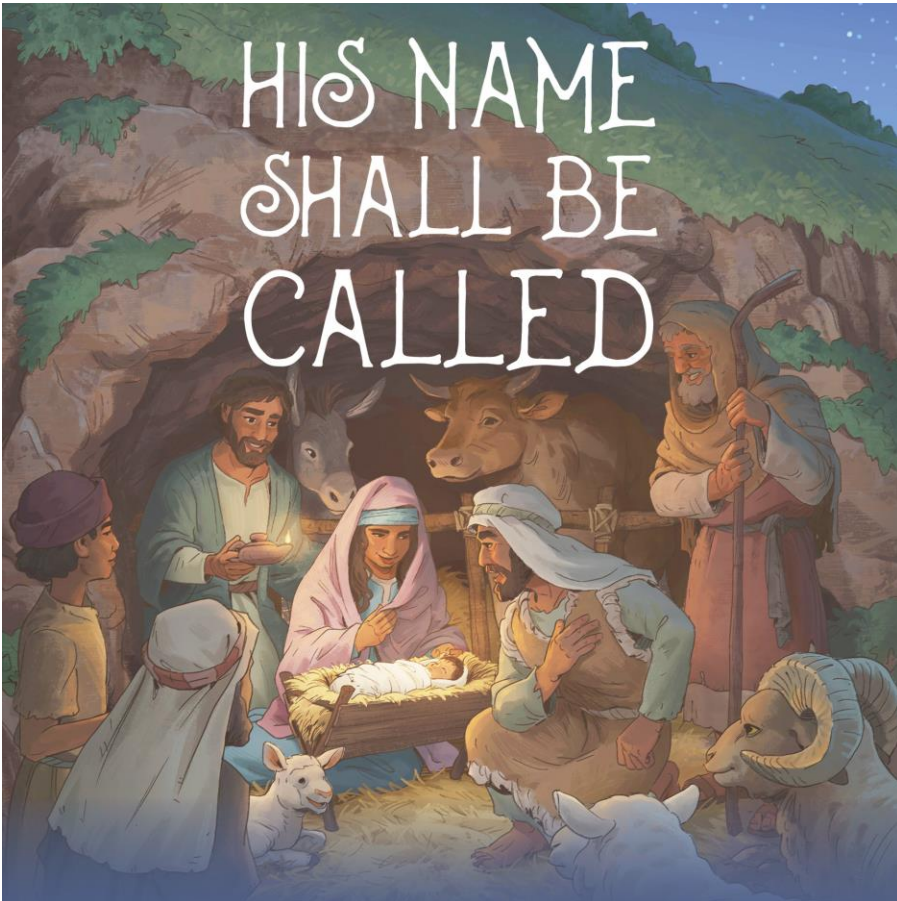
Missouri Synod

The Living Nativity

December 15, 2024

10:30 am

*livestreamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)



Rev. Eric J. Edwards † **Rev. Christopher Beck** † **Rev. Liwei Sui**

2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN † 812-332-1668 † office@faithbtown.org

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – *Once He Came in Blessing* (arr. John Leavitt)

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 375 – Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

The congregation sings all.



1 Come, your hearts and voices rais - ing, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.

6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join Your choir above.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB
Hymn License no. 110001557. Tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES – *Isaiah 9:6, adapted*

- P** To us . . .
- C** a child is born!
- P** To us . . .
- C** a son is given!
- P** His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
- C** **Mighty God,**
- P** Everlasting Father,
- C** **Prince of Peace.**

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

OFFERING – *Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People* (arr. Egil Hovland)

✠ THE LIVING NATIVITY ✠

“THE VIRGIN WILL
conceive
and
GIVE BIRTH
to a
son,
AND THEY WILL
call him
IMMANUEL”
(which means “God with us”).
MATTHEW 1:23, NIV

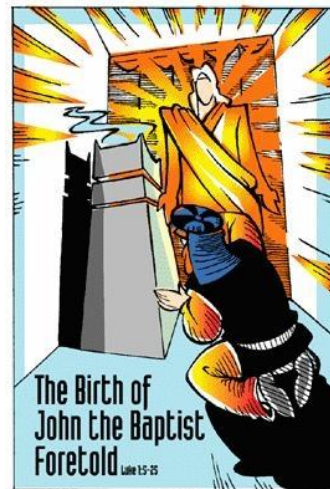


INTRODUCTION

MARY

GABRIEL COMES TO ZECHARIAH

GABRIEL COMES TO MARY





MARY TELLS JOSEPH

MARY VISITS ELIZABETH

When Elizabeth heard the greeting of
Mary, the baby leaped in her womb.

Luke 1:41, ESV

LSB 934 – My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

The congregation sings all.



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -
3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters
4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like
those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.
el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557

Tune: Public domain

JOHN THE BAPTIST IS BORN

*"His name
is
John."*

Luke 1:63



GABRIEL COMES TO JOESPH

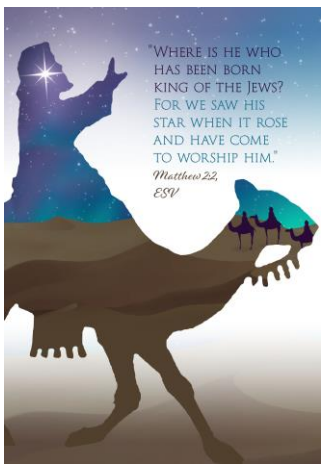


JESUS' BIRTH

**SHEPHERDS ARE VISITED
BY ANGELS**



THE MAGI VISIT KING HEROD



CLOSING

CAROL – LSB 363 – Silent Night, Holy Night

The children sing verse 1 and the congregation joins on verses 2 and 3.

We invite you to hold your (paper) candle as we sing.



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 - diant 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.

Text and tune: Public domain



— Silent Night. Holy Night. —

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will 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.

RESPONSIVE READING

P To us a child is born,
C to us a son is given.

P Jesus is our Wonderful Counselor,
C our Mighty God,
P the Everlasting Father,
C the Prince of Peace. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER

P Let us pray.
C Heavenly Father, thank You for fulfilling Your promise to send Your Son to be our Savior. You have given us the best gift of all: the Child in the manger who came to live, die, and rise again for us! In His name we pray. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless and keep you in the joy of Jesus, our Savior. The blessing of the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you today and every day.
C Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN – LSB 387 – Joy to the World

The children sing verse 1 and the congregation joins on the remaining verses.



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
poy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

POST-SERVICE MUSIC – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (arr. Marilyn Biery)

Parents –

Please pick up your children in the gym
and then return to the narthex together for cookies!



The flowers on the altar are given in thanksgiving for our

- **Sunday School children and teachers**
- **Youth leaders**
- **Cantor**
- **and all who helped with today's Christmas program.**



Serving in Worship

Living Nativity Author and Co-Director.....	Tatiana Huss
Cantor.....	Dr. Priscilla Gabriel
Mary.....	Daphne Franklin
Joseph.....	Nora Rodriguez
Zechariah.....	Arie Edwards
Elizabeth.....	Natalie Brunner
Gabriel.....	Landon Miller
Prophet.....	Coraline Shettlesworth
Herald.....	Audrey Tankersley
Herod.....	Evie Edwards
Magi 1.....	Zane Miller
Magi 2.....	Matthew Sui
Magi 3.....	Edward Kelwaski
Narrators.....	Gram Tankersley, Jackson Tankersley, Sebastian Schaefer
Townsperson.....	Margaret Sui
Innkeeper.....	Emileigh Cross

Sunday School Staff

Sunday School Superintendent & Living Nativity Co-Director.....	Megan DeMoss
Parents & Two's.....	Sarah Pape, Stephanie Yoder
3 & 4 Year Olds.....	Vicky Hillenburg, Erin Miller, Amanda & Ryan Shettlesworth
5 Year Olds & Kindergarten.....	Tim Paul, Samantha Schaefer
Grades 1 & 2.....	Debbie Hicks, Alyson McGhie, Autumn Battaglia
Grades 3 & 4.....	Jean Scott, Lauren Gaskins
Grades 5 & 6.....	Emilia Brunner, John & Kim Pitcher, Tom Waggoner
Grades 7 & 8; High School.....	Chastin Baker, Tati Huss




TODAY

- 11:30am Congregational Voters' Meeting – please attend!
- 4:00pm Installation of Rev. Josiah Fitch (*Faith, Columbus*)

Voters' Meeting

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

in the sanctuary, following the 10:30 service



- Election of officers
- Election of lay delegates for 2025 Indiana District Convention
- 2025 Budget
- Pastors' Housing resolutions
- Ministry reports

All communicant members age 18+ are automatically voting members.



Tuesdays: December 17, 24 **Salvation Army Bell-ringing**

Faith rings for Salvation Army at *Kroger East* each Tuesday until Christmas. 2-hour shifts are still available each week.

Visit faithbtown.org – or contact *Janet Hitzeman* – to sign up.



Wednesday, December 18

12:00pm Advent Worship

12:45pm Meal (Grand Hall)

5:45pm Meal (Grand Hall)

6:45pm Christmas Carol Sing (sanctuary)

7:00pm Advent Worship

7:45pm Senior Choir



Luminary lighting - 3pm on Christmas Eve

Bundle up and come help place and light our annual luminaries along our driveway and around the parking lot. This is a 1-hour (or less) service opportunity.

To help this year, meet at church at 3pm on Christmas Eve. Please **bring a long lighter** if possible.

 <p><i>Special</i> Worship <i>Schedule</i></p>	<p>Christmas Eve – 5pm* & 7pm Candlelight Worship</p> <p>Christmas Day – 10am* Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>New Year's Eve – 5pm* Worship with Holy Communion</p>
---	--

* Service will also be **livestreamed** on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)
Follow the bulletin available on our [website](#).

*Any changes or updates to this schedule
will be available at www.faithbtown.org*



Do you receive our weekly announcements?

Subscribe to **FaithBtown News** for weekly announcements and updates.



Illustration © 2020 Concordia Publishing House Adapted from *The Illuminated Hymnal*