

Christmas Day

## **“There Goes the Neighborhood”**

December 25, 2022

### **As We Gather**

The Apostle John sums up the mystery of the incarnation by saying that “the Word became flesh.” The paraphrase translation of the Bible, The Message, puts it this way: “The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.”

On Christmas, we celebrate that Jesus moved into humanity’s neighborhood and into the neighborhood of our lives. What does it mean that we have such a God, and how does that shape how we follow Jesus in our neighborhoods?

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

**+ Gathering +**

### **“O Come All Ye Faithful” LSB 379**

1 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!	Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!
2 Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;	3 Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God In the highest: [Refrain]
	4 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]

### **Invocation**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen**

**Pastor:** Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

**People:** **The Lord has made His salvation known and revealed His righteousness to the nations.**

Pastor: He has remembered His love and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**People: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;**

Pastor: Make music to the Lord with the harp, with the hard and the sound of singing,

**People: with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn – shout for joy before the Lord, the King.**

Pastor: Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

**People: Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;**

Pastor: let them sing before the Lord, for He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

**People: To God be glory and praise, both now and evermore. Amen.** Psalm 98

### **“Angels from the Realms of Glory”**

**LSB 367**

Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing Your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er Your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the Infant Light;  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear.  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Sages, leave Your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star;

All creation join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore Your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One.  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

### **Prayer**

Pastor The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.  
Almighty and unseen God, you have come near to us in the newborn face of your Son, the Christ child, whose presence brings comfort, peace, and joy. Call us out of the captivity of our sin into His freedom. Empower us to proclaim His new birth in our hearts from every level place and high mountain, for He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

### Readings

#### First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring good news,  
who proclaim peace,  
who bring good tidings,  
who proclaim salvation,  
who say to Zion,  
“Your God reigns!”

<sup>8</sup> Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;  
together they shout for joy.

When the LORD returns to Zion,  
they will see it with their own eyes.

<sup>9</sup> Burst into songs of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD will lay bare his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth will see  
the salvation of our God.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

#### Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son;  
today I have become your Father”?  
Or again,  
“I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”?  
<sup>6</sup> And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,  
“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Holy Gospel: John 1:1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to You O Christ!**

**Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Musical Offering**

**“I Saw Three Ships”** Arr. David Wilcocks Sanctuary Choir

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. I saw three ships come sailing in,<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>I saw three ships come sailing in,<br>On Christmas day in the morning.                 | Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem,<br>On Christmas day in the morning.  |
| 2. And what was in those ships all three?<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>And what was in those ships all three?<br>On Christmas day in the morning.         | 6. And all the bells on earth shall ring,<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>And all the bells on earth shall ring,<br>On Christmas day in the morning.     |
| 3. Our Saviour Christ and his lady,<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>Our Saviour Christ and his lady,<br>On Christmas day in the morning.                     | 7. And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,<br>On Christmas day in the morning. |
| 4. Pray whither sailed those ships all three?<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>Pray whither sailed those ships all three?<br>On Christmas day in the morning. | 8. And all the souls on earth shall sing,<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>And all the souls on earth shall sing,<br>On Christmas day in the morning.     |
| 5. Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem,<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,  | 9. Then let us all rejoice, amain,<br>On Christmas day, on Christmas day,<br>Then let us all rejoice, amain,<br>On Christmas day in the morning.                   |

**Sermon**

**“There Goes the Neighborhood”**

**Offering**

## Musical Offering

The night was chill,  
the winds were still,  
the angels in heaven were waiting,  
The time was near  
when the world would hear  
of the birth of the King of Kings.

The place was spare,  
no comforts there,  
to shelter or herald His coming.  
The Lord of Light  
who comes this night  
is Jesus, the King of Kings.

He will bring joy to all people,  
and peace and good will  
toward men.  
There will be joy for all people  
if they will believe in Him.

The angel told, in language bold,  
his tidings to shepherds, quaking,  
"Fear not," said he,  
"For you shall see  
the Child, the King of Kings."

They went with haste,  
to find the place,  
where the Holy Child lay sleeping,  
While angel choirs  
with tongues of fire  
sang praise to the King of Kings.

## "King of Kings"

Betsy Lee Bailey

He will bring joy to all people,  
and peace and good will  
toward men.  
There will be joy for all people  
if they will believe in Him.

And from afar the wondrous star  
led wise men westward seeking.  
Their gifts to bring to the Infant King,  
the Savior, the King of Kings.

He will bring joy to all people,  
and life and salvation for man.  
There will be joy for all people  
if they will believe in Him.

And we, as they of ancient day,  
bring homage and hearts adoring.  
Our voices ring, our praises sing to  
Jesus the King of Kings.

He will bring joy to all people  
and life eternal for man.  
He will bring joy for all people  
if they will believe in Him.

He will bring joy, joy, joy to the world!  
Sing alleluia, alleluia!  
Joy! Joy! Joy to the world!  
Jesus is King of Kings!  
Sing joy and hallelujah!  
We honor the King of Kings!

## Prayers

### + The Service of Holy Communion +

#### Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should, at all times and in all places, give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. In the beginning, You created all things by Your Word; then, in the fullness of time, Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Through His body and blood given us to eat and drink, dwell among us even now that, as the angels at Bethlehem first proclaimed the Savior's birth, we too may declare His saving presence to all the earth. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**People: 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 Words of Institution**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

### **Communion**

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**People: Amen.** *(Take and eat)*

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**People: Amen.** *(Take and drink)*

## Communion Hymns

### “Angels We Have Heard on High” LSB 368

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why Your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire Your heav'nly song? **Refrain**

#### **Refrain**

Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **Refrain**

### “See Amid the Winter’s Snow” LSB 373

See amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the gentle Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

Lo, within a stable lies  
He who built the starry skies,  
He who throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim. **Refrain**

#### **Refrain**

Hail, O ever-blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Sacred Infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this! **Refrain**

Teach, O teach us, holy Child,  
By Thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble Thee  
In Thy Sweet humility. **Refrain**

## Blessing

## Prayer

## Benediction

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**



**“Go Tell It on the Mountain” LSB 388**

**Chorus**

Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and ev’rywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.

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

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

Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn. **Chorus**

**“King of Kings”**

**Betsy Lee Bailey**

*Sarah Kramer, Soprano*

*Clayton D’Angelo, Baritone*

*Erin Blackwood, Piano*

*Deana Ehlen, Flute*

*Heidi Newman, Violin*

**Offering**

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John’s (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

**Serving in Worship Tonight**

Preacher

Rev. Michael A. Schmid

Lay Readers

Brett Carey, Megan Mathison

Organist

Erin Blackwood

Sound Technician

Bill Clark

Projection Technician

Bob Klein

Streaming Technician

Martin Meissenhalter

Worship Preparation Team

Betsy Gewirz, Bob & Doris Klein

Communion Assistants

Joel Wahlers, Dove Bain, Gerry Schneider

Ushers

Penni Cremen, Missy Loban